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SUNDAY

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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**OPINION METER**

**This week's poll:**
**Did you vote in last week's election for a CNMI delegate to the U.S. Congress?**

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to cast your vote.

**47 DAYS** without a government budget for FY 2009

INSIDE

**New Designs**
Furniture manufacturers are working hard to come up with designs to entice cash-strapped customers.

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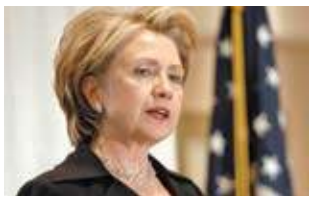

**State Secretary**
Obama has interviewed Hillary Rodham Clinton and Bill Richardson for secretary of state.

NATION...Page 17

**Waiting Still**
By the time he turned 60 Friday, Prince Charles has already spent a lifetime in line to become king.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 21

# No more visas for Korean visitors

## Opinions mixed on how Korea visa waiver will impact CNMI

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tomorrow is the first day Koreans will no longer need a visa to visit the United States, but local agencies and organizations are hoping that the CNMI will remain a go-to destination for Koreans hoping to save money.

The Marianas Visitor's Authority anticipates an initial rush to the mainland and Hawaii but thinks the numbers will taper off, and Saipan will continue to attract its own unique visitors, said Perry Tenorio, managing director of MVA.

According to the MVA, 8,715 Koreans visited the Commonwealth in October.

The weakening of the Korean won might play a factor whether Koreans will travel to Hawaii or to the CNMI and Guam, Tenorio said.

*See IMPACT on Page 1*

Baka

## 'CNMI govt not shielded from releasing OGA docs'

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

A local lawyer believes the attorney-client privilege and the CNMI Constitution does not shield the CNMI government from releasing documents Rep. Tina Sablan is requesting regarding funding and contracts related to the federalization lawsuit.

Sablan, under the CNMI's Open Government Act, requested copies of contracts related

*See LAWYER on Page 4*

**FOOT CARE** NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Physical therapist Jamie Beavis attends to a patient, Gregorio Basa, during a free foot clinic at the Commonwealth Health center's Physical Therapy Department Friday. The open house clinic was in observance of World Diabetes Day.

Obama

## Obama has more threats than other presidents-elect

By EILEEN SULLIVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**WASHINGTON** (AP) —Threats against a new president historically spike right after an election, but from Maine to Idaho law enforcement officials are see-

*See THREATS on Page 4*

# Checkpoints flag 14 uninsured cars

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

During random checkpoints the past two days, police officers from the Department of Public Safety issued citations to 14 motorists whose cars were found to be uninsured.

At the same time, DPS said it is ready to set up sobriety checkpoints in preparation for the Christmas holidays in the next few days.

Of the 116 motorists who were screened yesterday in a period of one-and-a-half hours starting at 9am in front of the Minatchom Atdao just across the Gilbert C. Ada Gym, eight were cited for non-compliance with the Mandatory Liability Insurance Act, or Public Law 11-55.

*See POLICE on Page 4*

'If oil continues decline, so will power rates' **PAGE 3**
Bell launches bid to swim around Tinian island. **PAGE 5**

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Special thanks to Saipan Grand Hotel for hosting the NMC Information Session.

# Around the CNMI

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

LISS Tigers winners pose with coach Richard Waldo.

## LISS students shine in Math Court, NFL

At this year's Math Court competitions, the LISS Tigers remained atop the high school division of the competition, which was held Nov. 7 at San Vicente Elementary School.

Coached by Richard Waldo and James Phillips, the LISS Tigers continue to dominate the top slots in the high school division for Geometry and Algebra 2.

"Coaching such talent from the LISS students is an invigorating experience. We have practiced numerous hours to ensure we come home with victory," said Waldo.

Additionally, LISS students also did well during the National Forensic League and Junior National Forensic League competitions, held on the same day at SVES.

LISS students placed first, second, and fifth place in the NFL Poetry Reading, high school division; and fourth place in the Master Poetry Reading.

In the junior level, LISS placed second in Poetry Reading while in Elementary Math, LISS placed fourth in the 6th grade division.

"I am proud of the outcome. At first, I wondered whether we could place, given the school's third year in operation. I owe all of this to the faculty and students who took this competition seriously and came out victorious," said LISS Director Wayne Pangelinan. ***(PR)***

**MATH COURT**

**The following LISS students won Geometry awards:**
1st, Chan-Hwi Park (11TH)
2nd, Si-woo Kim (9TH)
2nd, Minhee Lee (11TH)
3rd, BJ Park (10TH)

**The following LISS students won Algebra 2 awards:**
1st, Chan-Hwi Park (11TH)
2nd, Yuri Park (11TH)
2nd, Claire Ahn (11TH)
3rd, BJ Park (10TH)

**The following LISS student won 6 TH grade competition awards:**
4TH, Kevin Park (6TH)

**NFL**

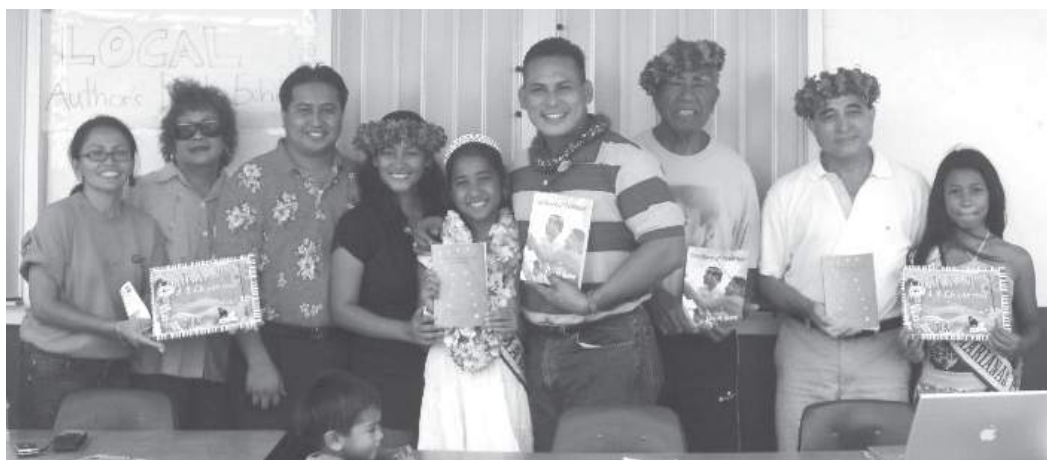
**Poetry Reading**
1st, Ariel St.Clair (11TH)
2nd, Julie Cho (11TH)
5th, Chan-Hwi Park (11TH)

**Master Poetry Reading**
4th, Yuri Park (11TH)

**JNFL**

**Poetry Reading**
2nd, Christina Carulla (8TH)

# ‘If oil continues decline, so will power rates’



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**MOTHEREAD/FATHEREAD ANNIVERSARY**
Elementary School principals Charlotte Camacho, Ignacia Demapan, Jonas Barcinas and NMI authors Diane T. Torres, Lino Olopai, and Manny Borja. Also Vince Torres, DES PTA president; Little Miss Marianas Kayla Borja and princess Cassandra Royal at the festival grounds.

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As long as the price of crude oil continues to decrease, power rates should also continue to drop, Antonio Muña, executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said this week.

The price of oil has plunged below $60 a barrel, a huge drop from the record $147.27 set on July 11. The decrease has shown in power bills. CUC lowered the electric rate by 6.7 cents per kWh from 33.7 in October to 27 cents this month.

“It’s really given us relief in that area,” Muna said. “For the first time in a long time we’re down below 28 cents.”

November’s rate of 27 cents is the lowest its been since May, when CUC more than doubled the rates for residential customers. The all-time high rate of 41.3 cents was set in July and August.

Mobil sets the oil prices once a month, when the tanker arrives on Saipan, Muña said.

“So, basically at the time they deliver the fuel, the price is now ready to be set on a 30-day period from last time they brought in fuel,” he said.

If the price of oil remained low during those 30 days, the buying price will remain low but if there were peaks and valleys, that will affect the buying price, he added.

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# Koblerville family has had no power, water for 18 mos. now

## CUC sued for disconnection

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A family in Koblervile has filed a lawsuit in federal court against the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., its officials, and some employees for not reconnecting their power and water for 18 months now.

The family wants to know why they were disconnected in the first place, saying that CUC has not responded to their inquiries.

The complainants are Melvin Repeki Aldan, his wife Debra Kapileo Aldan, and their six children. They all reside in Koblerville.

The plaintiffs, through the O’Connor law firm, sued CUC, its executive director, Antonio Muña; and CUC personnel Grina Mizutani, Lee Lieto, and Verna Sablan, whose duties include customer service and reconnections.

The family also sued five unnamed CUC personnel who allegedly authorized the initial disconnection of their utility services.

The complainants sued the defendants for breach of contract and violation of the CNMI Constitution.

The family asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order the defendants to pay them damages, court costs, and attorney’s fees. They also asked the court to compel CUC to reconnect their electrical and water utility services.

*Saipan Tribune* contacted CUC yesterday, but no one was available to comment.

In the lawsuit filed Thursday, the family said they moved into their current residence in Koblervile on Nov. 16, 2006. Since that time until April 2007, the plaintiffs received power and water services. Melvin Aldan claims that he paid CUC for services each month from November 2006 through April 2007.

The complaint states that in May 1007, for unknown reasons, the family’s electrical meter was removed by CUC. Their electric and water utility services were cut off.

“From May 2007 to the present, plaintiffs have repeatedly requested CUC and its personnel, including Muna, Mizutani, Lieto, and Sablan, and to reconnect their power and water, and or to conduct an administrative hearing or informal meeting regarding the reasons for their disconnection, and what they need to do to get reconnected,” the complaint said.

The O’Connor law firm said the defendants “have taken no action in response to plaintiffs’ entreaties, or responded to them in any other way.”

# Health care conference comes to an end

Approximately 125 people took part in the 2008 Pacific Health Care Conference this past Thursday and Friday.

Home health care and diabetes were the two main issues of the conference.

The CNMI’s documented rate of diabetes is 30 percent, making it one of the highest rates in the world, but George Cruz, president and CEO of Marianas Health Services, Inc. and the CNMI Diabetes Coalition chairman, said the actual rate is probably higher if private sector health care organizations are included in the tally. He estimates the rate to be closer to 50 to 60 percent, which would be the highest rate in the world. Although numbers from the Public School System show a decrease that doesn’t mean kids won’t get adult-onset diabetes later on in life, Cruz said.

Keynote speaker Dr. Henry Ichiho, a consultant evaluator for the Pacific Diabetes Education program, gave a presentation that looked at diabetes from a Pacific perspective.

“A lot of us are using the U.S. approach, where hospitals deal with it,” Cruz said. “In the Pacific, we forget the cultural aspect. The U.S. model doesn’t incorporate the religious aspect.”

It’s important to remember the importance of culture, religious and traditional leaders play in the Pacific community when trying to prevent diabetes, Cruz said.

“We’re finally realizing they work,” he added.

The conference was a collaborative effort between several organizations, including the Diabetes Coalition, Ayuda Network and the Commonwealth Cancer Association. ***(Kristi Eaton)***

# USCG suspends search for missing Guam fisherman

**GUAM**—Shortly after sunset on Friday, Coast Guard Sector Guam suspended its search for the missing fisherman in the waters off of southern Guam.

However, yesterday morning Guam Fire and Rescue and Guam Police Department divers were scheduled to continue the search along the reef line and close to shore.

“Suspending the Coast Guard portion of the search was a very difficult decision for us and our prayers go out to the family,” said Cdr. Lance Rocks, Deputy Commander of Sector Guam.

Coast Guard search assets, including Navy helicopters, Coast Guard cutter *Washington* and station small boats, have searched both from the air and sea since early Thursday morning covering a cumulative search area one half the size of Guam.

The Coast Guard reminds boaters to keep a sharp lookout this weekend and report any sightings to the Coast Guard at 564-USCG. ***(USCG)***

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# Impact of Korea visa waiver on NMI uncertain

From Page 1

The MVA's offshore office said the visa waiver would not affect Korean package tours, which account for 80 percent of Korean arrivals to the CNMI, because that market is different than the market traveling to the U.S. mainland.

However, the CNMI's Korean honeymoon market will be affected because U.S. destinations will more aggressively target high-spending honeymooners, Tenorio was told by the MVA's offshore market.

The waiver program might cause a little bit more competition for the CNMI, but it shouldn't greatly affect the Korean visitor numbers because Saipan is closer, said Lynn Knight, chairwoman for the Hotel Association of Northern Marianas Islands.

A flight to the United States is a long haul and very expensive, she said.

"I think we'll always have the advantage of close proximity," she added. "You know people are concerned about money now."

Visitors that want a shorter, less expensive vacation will continue to visit the CNMI, Knight said.

Additional flights recently added by Asiana Airlines also add appeal to Saipan, Knight said. In October, Asiana added three flights from Seoul, bringing the total number of Asiana flights from Korea to 18 weekly.

But Simon Sin, publisher of the Korean newspaper, *The Saipan Times*, said Saipan would now be less favorable to Koreans than before.

"The visa waiver will have more tourists go to the mainland of the USA, definitely," he said. "We expect tour companies will be booming in terms of business, because many Korean people want to go to the mainland. Some couldn't get a visa for the mainland. Many people felt it was too difficult because of the long lines for interviews in Seoul, but since the visa waiver program was implemented maybe people will go to mainland."

Lee Shen of Hyatt's marketing and communications division said she's sure the visa waiver program will hurt the hotel's Korean visitor numbers.

"It's not really good news for us because this year compared to last year the Korean market has increased," she said. "But if they start a waiver they might go to Hawaii. I don't think any hotel here will think it's a good idea."

South Korea is one of seven countries that will join the visa waiver program tomorrow. The other countries are Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary and Slovakia.

Under the visa waiver program, citizens of these countries will be able to travel to the United States for short visits without the need to first secure a visa. All they need to show is a passport and a roundtrip ticket. Travelers must also have a biometric passport and fill out a travel authority form online.

# Police clamp down on uninsured vehicles

From Page 1

Earlier on Friday, six were also given citations out of a total of 93 motorists that were screened.

As of press time at about 4:30pm yesterday, a similar checkpoint was set up on Middle Road near the XO Supermart.

Juana Leon Guerrero, director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, explained that the checkpoints were unannounced because it is the law.

Those who were cited have either not been complying with the law at all or have expired insurance, or they have already complied but they didn't have the insurance policy in their car.

Guerrero said that based on the law, these violators will be fined in an amount ranging from $100 to $500.

Police placed stickers on the windshield of the cars of those who were given citations: green for those who have insurance but the policy was not in the car and red for those with no insurance at all.

One in every 10 vehicles was stopped at the checkpoint.

Lt. Paul T. Ogumoro said they have seen some motorists go in the opposite direction to avoid the checkpoint.

Still, he said, there is a good percentage of vehicle owners who are complying with the law.

"This is successful. This is to remind the community that the law is in place. This is to remind them that they have to visit their insurance agency," Ogumoro said.

He said vehicles owners must always be aware of consequences if any accident happens.

"But we also remind them to drive carefully. This is just one of the many checkpoints we will be setting up for the next few days in time for the Christmas holidays," Ogumoro said.

The "packaged" sobriety checks will include non-wearing of seatbelt, driving under the influence, not complying with insurance liability, no driver's license, expired registration, etc.

Ogumoro stressed that this is also a way of deterring accidents and making the road safe.

"We also want to educate motorists that safe driving can save many lives," he said.

# Threats against Obama rising, say authorities

From Page 1

ing more against Barack Obama than ever before. The Secret Service would not comment or provide the number of cases they are investigating. But since the Nov. 4 election, law enforcement officials have seen more potentially threatening writings, Internet postings and other activity directed at Obama than has been seen with any past president-elect, said officials aware of the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity because the issue of a president's security is so sensitive.

Earlier this week, the Secret Service looked into the case of a sign posted on a tree in Vay, Idaho, with Obama's name and the offer of a "free public hanging." In North Carolina, civil rights officials complained of threatening racist graffiti targeting Obama found in a tunnel near the North Carolina State University campus.

And in a Maine convenience store, an Associated Press reporter saw a sign inviting customers to join a betting pool on when Obama might fall victim to an assassin. The sign solicited $1 entries into "The Osama Obama Shotgun Pool," saying the money would go to the person picking the date closest to when Obama was attacked. "Let's hope we have a winner," said the sign, since taken down.

In the security world, anything "new" can trigger hostility, said Joseph Funk, a former Secret Service agent-turned security consultant who oversaw a private protection detail for Obama before the Secret Service began guarding the candidate in early 2007.

Obama, of course, will be the country's first black president, and Funk said that new element, not just race itself, is probably responsible for a spike in anti-Obama postings and activity. "Anytime you're going to have something that's new, you're going to have increased chatter," he said.

The Secret Service also has cautioned the public not to assume that any threats against Obama are due to racism.

The service investigates threats in a wide range. There are "stated threats" and equally dangerous or lesser incidents considered of "unusual interest"—such as people motivated by obsessions or infatuations or lower-level gestures such as effigies of a candidate or an elected president. The service has said it does not have the luxury of discounting anything until agents have investigated the potential danger.

Racially tinged graffiti—not necessarily directed at Obama—also has emerged in numerous reports across the nation since Election Day, prompting at least one news conference by a local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Georgia.

A law enforcement official who also spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly said that during the campaign there was a spike in anti-Obama rhetoric on the Internet—"a lot of ranting and raving with no capability, credibility or specificity to it."

There were two threatening cases with racial overtones:

■ In Denver, a group of men with guns and bulletproof vests made racist threats against Obama and sparked fears of an assassination plot during the Democratic National Convention in August.

■ Just before the election, two skinheads in Tennessee were charged with plotting to behead blacks across the country and assassinate Obama while wearing white top hats and tuxedos.

In both cases, authorities determined the men were not capable of carrying out their plots.

In Milwaukee, police officials found a poster of Obama with a bullet going toward his head—discovered on a table in a police station.

Chatter among white supremacists on the Internet has increased throughout the campaign and since Election Day.

One of the most popular white supremacist Web sites got more than 2,000 new members the day after the election, compared with 91 new members on Election Day, according to an AP count. The site, stormfront.org, was temporarily off-line Nov. 5 because of the overwhelming amount of activity it received after Election Day. On Saturday, one Stormfront poster, identified as Dalderian Germanicus, of North Las Vegas, said, "I want the SOB laid out in a box to see how 'messiahs' come to rest. God has abandoned us, this country is doomed."

It is not surprising that a black president would galvanize the white supremacist movement, said Mark Potok, director of the Southern Poverty Law Center, who studies the white supremacy movement.

"The overwhelming flavor of the white supremacist world is a mix of desperation, confusion and hoping that this will somehow turn into a good thing for them," Potok said. He said hate groups have been on the rise in the past seven years because of a common concern about immigration.

*Associated Press writers Lara Jakes Jordan in Washington and Jerry Harkavy in Standish, Maine, contributed to this report.*

# Lawyer says docs being asked are not covered by OGA

From Page 1

to the lawsuit, including the contract between the CNMI government and Jenner & Block; documents detailing payments of the contracts; documents detailing funding sources for the contracts; and documents identifying where money was reprogrammed in order to finance the lawsuit.

She also asked for a copy of remarks special legal counsel Howard Willens presented to Gov. Benigno Fitial and his Cabinet members regarding the suit.

Acting Attorney General Gregory Baka, in a letter to Sablan, denied her request stating that funding sources and contracts between the CNMI and outside counsel are exempt from OGA disclosure because they are not discoverable by the United States. Baka could not comment for this story, his secretary said, because he was preparing to go off island.

Jane Mack, of Micronesian Legal Services Corp., said courts have consistently held that the attorney-client privilege, absent exceptional circumstances, does not shield the existence of the attorney-client relationship, name of the client, the fee agreement or payments made under the fee agreements. This decision has been upheld in several Circuit Courts and U.S. District Court cases, she said.

Mack said the case of In re Osterhoudt, a case heard in the 9th Circuit, is of particular note. The decision states:

"Fee arrangements usually fall outside the scope of the [attorney-client] privilege because such information ordinarily reveals no confidential professional communication between attorney and client, and not because such information may not be incriminating."

It is possible that fee agreements might include advice or strategy on the litigation, but according to Shell vs. Drew & Ward, such confidential professional advice could be redacted, Mack said.

In his letter to Sablan, Baka states, "Absent these provisions (attorney-client), agents of the United States could use the OGA as a subterfuge to obtain records unavailable through discovery."

During a press conference, Baka referred to a portion of the OGA that exempts records which are relevant to a controversy, and which would not be available to another party under the rules of pretrial discovery.

There is a controversy, Mack said, but the exemption does not grant any greater protection than the attorney-client privilege.

"It simply says that where relevant evidence is not discoverable in the lawsuit, it may be protected by the OGA," she said.

It's unlikely the documents Sablan requested would be deemed relevant to the controversy, Mack said.

"It would not be discoverable by the U.S. in the litigation about federalization because it's not relevant to that controversy, not because it's privileged."

Mack said the United States is within the "any person" language of the OGA, so they can get public documents under the Act, but "Greg Baka's analysis confuses the OGA and discovery under the court rules of civil procedure," she said. "The OGA allows for broader dissemination of information than the court rules. Yes, an opponent to the CNMI government could get records under the OGA that it cannot get under discovery."

However, Mack added, the OGA does shield from disclosure documents and records that are relevant to the litigation and not discoverable under federal rules.

Mack said, in her opinion, the meeting between Willens and Fitial and his Cabinet would be protected by the attorney-client privilege.

"This is exactly the kind of information and communication that the attorney-client privilege is designed to protect—information about the progress of the suit, advice on the merits, advice on how to proceed, and possibly advice on what to expect from the other side," she said.

Sablan also asked for clarification about the fact that the AG's Office did not sign off on the lawsuit or the contracts. Mack said, in her opinion, that the OGA does not cover such information.

"The OGA isn't a method for getting questions answered, but for having documents produced," she said. "Greg Baka's response in this regard was polite and informative."

Baka told Sablan hundreds of pleadings are filed annually by the AGO without the AG's personal review or signature, although as Acting AG he did review and comment on drafts. According to Mack, she believes this is a violation of the CNMI Constitution, Article III, § 11.

The provision states AG's must sign off on all legal matters, she said.

"The AG may act through assistant attorneys general who work in his office or under his direction," she said. "Greg is correct in that assertion, I think, and the CNMI court previously held similarly in a challenge to authority of a prior acting AG. However, nothing in the Constitution says that the Attorney General may delegate his authority to outside counsel; in fact the Constitution makes it seems, on the plain language of the section, that such delegation may not take place."

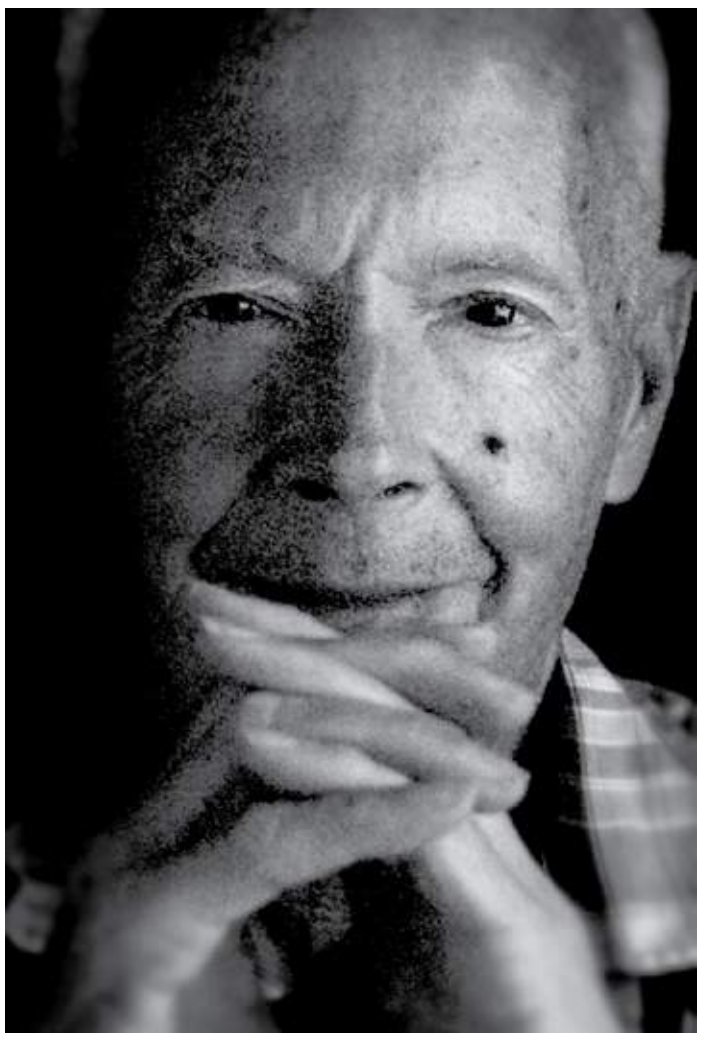
For her part, Sablan said she would soon submit an OGA request to Secretary of Finance Eloy Inos. After that, it's up to the courts, she said.

# The Old Man in the Sea

# Bell launches bid to swim around Tinian island

By JAMES BELL
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

*Editor's Note: On June 9, 2008, James Bell celebrated his 70th birthday swimming the five-mile channel between Saipan and Tinian. It was a feat he last achieved in July 1981, when he marked his retirement from the U.S. Navy by swimming alone from Saipan to Tinian. Since then, he has swum the entire coastline of Saipan, circling the entire island, and has swum back to Tinian, where he has set for himself the same goal of swimming around the island. Here, he will be sharing his experience with* Saipan Tribune *readers as he attempts the feat.*



James Bell

The Old Man in the Sea did not go home—sorry to disappoint you. The month of October was spent settling into my new temporary home on Tinian, south of Saipan, and starting on my swim of the shoreline of Tinian. Tinian is a very different place than Saipan. It is a smaller island with a much smaller population since much of the island is leased by the military and uninhabited.

Most of the western shoreline of Saipan is beach protected by a barrier reef while Tinian has only one segment of barrier reef and few beaches. There are miles of cliffs and wave cut benches on Tinian's west side, similar to the configuration found on Saipan's exposed east side. Much of Tinian's east side is cliffs dropping directly into the sea, which will be a challenge for swimming.

My swim began on Oct. 15 at Kammer Beach adjacent to the village of San Jose. There is probably a story for every foot of the shoreline of an island and early in my swim one of these stories came to mind as I passed the main pier in the port. The heavy cruiser *Indianapolis* anchored off shore in 1945 and sent a landing craft to the pier carrying components for the atomic bombs destined for Japan. She departed on July 27 and headed south for a brief stop at the island of Guam before proceeding west for the Philippines. Just after midnight on the night of July 30, she was hit by two torpedoes fired by the Japanese submarine I-58 and sank in 14 minutes. Of the 1,196 men on board, about 300 went down with the ship and about 900 survived, some in rafts, but most in the water and not all wearing life jackets. Most had no food or water. Through a tragedy of errors, help did not arrive for four days, by which time only 316 survivors remained, the rest having succumbed to thirst, exposure and shark attacks. It was the worst naval disaster in U.S. history. Capt. Charles McVay, the commanding officer of the *Indianapolis*, was court-martialed and, in a rush to judgment, held culpable, but finally exonerated 33 years after he had committed suicide.

My first swim would take me through the intricacy of a once busy harbor now used by occasional supply ships and the once daily departure and arrival of the Tinian/Saipan Express ferry. A Saturday swim would take me around the breakwater which, like most of the berthing areas of the harbor, is in advanced decay. In the tropics, ocean and vegetation work tirelessly to erase the works of men.

This first swim on Tinian ended in a typical bay surrounded by cliffs whose maximum height is attained at the point of farthest penetration of the bay inland. The bay is known for its green sea turtles, but I saw none on my way to the strip of sand called Barcinas Beach. The trail to the top of the cliff was steep and slippery, but passable.

I had some hiking to do to get to the main road and felt inclined to explore a side trail. I came upon a small cemetery, well tended, but with most of the inscriptions weathered from the markers. The only one with a legible date was that of a man from the island of Yap who had died on June 10, 1954, my 16th birthday, taking the dateline into account. Checking the book *History of the Northern Mariana Islands* by my friend, Don Farrell, I found that the cemetery belonged to a leprosarium operated from 1948 to 1956. How many stories would come from this cemetery if tombstones could speak? People uprooted from their war-ravaged homes and sent to another devastated island, not to start a new life, but to die.

Attaining the main road, I started hiking back to town when, suddenly, a black creature came at me from the grass beside the road. My blood ran cold—an abandoned kitten! As I cuddled the purring fur ball, my mind went back to the year 1980 when I was swimming the shoreline of Guam. I had just climbed a steep trail from the ocean when a black kitten with white paws came out of the grass. I would bury "Tommy" on the side of a mountain overlooking Provo, Utah eight years later. Time will tell what lies ahead for "Tommie" and myself.

My next swim would take me out of the bay and around Diablo Point. The point is known for a current that frequently flows strongly from the north; not good news for a swimmer swimming weakly from the south. Fortunately, my run of bad luck on currents may have changed. There was no current.

After rounding the point, there was a long stretch of cliffs with wave cut benches and, where the cliffs attained their greatest height, some sea-level caves. The next bay was like the last one with a fringing reef around the perimeter of the bay, but no barrier reef across the entrance. On the south side of the bay the erosion of towering cliffs has created a high arch extending from the cliffs into the water, a beautiful example of nature's sculpturing probably seen by few. The tide was in and I rode waves across the reef with no trouble. Tali Beach was a short stretch of sand wrapped around large boulders accessed by a trail that became a technical rock climb part way up the cliff. Ropes had been strung up a crack in the cliff and some of the ropes were in bad shape. I didn't have to talk too hard to persuade myself to re-enter the water and search for a better exit.

On the north side of the bay, the cliffs lowered and I found a small protected inlet where I could easily climb from the water and then up the cliff. For the short swim up to the north side of the bay, I had just left my tennis shoes on instead of removing them and tying them on my belt. That is a procedure I may continue since, often, I will be exiting the water onto rough coral rocks with a need to move fast between waves.

Getting to a road required a hike of about 1 1/2 hours through a jungle composed mostly of *tangan tangan* trees. These are trees imported from Spain, which probably would have been better dumped in the ocean on the way. They provide seed pods which are not edible and grow close together, making cross-country hiking a chore. Interspersed with these trees were occasional papaya trees and other tall trees giving some variety. I saw no animals, but many beautiful butterflies and not so beautiful spiders and wasps. The wasps are usually referred to as "boonie bees" on the islands and swarm at anyone drawing too near their nests. I used to have swelling around boonie bee stings, but now the pain is gone in about 10 minutes and the stings leave no mark. Either the bees have gotten nicer or I have gotten meaner in my old age.

My next swim took me around a point into a long stretch of cliffs high enough to have a number of caves eroded into the rock at the waterline. In several places caves had worked their way back into the cliff and joined with other caves, creating forbidding labyrinths. Wave erosion had created some areas with wide overhanging cliffs and the low wave heights allowed me to swim close enough to the cliff to enjoy the shade of these overhangs.

The next bay is known as Dump Coke Bay (a place where Coke bottles and heavy debris from the war was jettisoned from the cliffs), another bay with a short stretch of sand on the south end and large boulders and cliffs lining the rest of the bay. I decided to swim around to the north side of the bay where the cliffs are lower to look for a good place to exit the water. I was running a little late and decided to try a cliff which, although about 100 ft high, looked climbable.

The cliff I selected had very steep debris slopes between vertical rises of 8 or 10 feet. It was not good rock, but crumbling coral. There were five vertical sections and they got more challenging as I ascended. About halfway up the cliff, I had both feet on a bush jutting from one of the vertical segments when the bush snapped. Fortunately I had both hands gripping firm rock and dangled only a few seconds before repositioning my feet.

As I contemplated the fifth vertical, the worst of all, the sun sank into the sea; my haste had cost me almost two hours of precious daylight. There were handholds at the limit of my reach, but no footholds. I was losing strength and my heart was beginning to tell me that I had been stressing it long enough. Climbing down was not an option, nor was hanging on the side of the cliff all night. It was time for action of some sort.

I tested my handholds and they were good. I then started moving my feet and legs in a running motion. There were no footholds, but there was enough friction with the side of the cliff to take some of the weight off my arms allowing me to lunge upward and grab a higher handhold with my left hand. I followed the same procedure with my right hand and both handholds were firm. With my next lunge, my left hand shot over the brink of the cliff and gripped the base of a bush. My right hand found a firm anchor and I pulled myself over the cliff edge. I knelt for a few moments in a sincere prayer of gratitude, then hurried into a darkening *tangan tangan* jungle.

My plan was to go cross-country to the fence surrounding the Voice of America antenna field, thence along the fence line to the guard post and a telephone. It was still twilight when I reached the edge of the jungle and entered a wide stand of sword grass. Sword grass is a plant that grows to about 8 feet in height with razor sharp edges on the blades. I knew I could make slow progress through sword grass after dark, but not through the *tangan tangan.*

A change in plans came when I encountered lantana (a vine whose stem is covered with small sharp stickers that break off in the skin) festooning the sword grass. Lantana is to be avoided in any case, but especially when you are attired in swim trunks and a short-sleeved shirt. Darkness found me working my way back through the sword grass in the opposite direction. I found that navigating through sword grass was best accomplished by walking backwards with the hope of breaking out into a clearing or into a road or trail. Hours later, I had succeeded in defining the boundaries of my nocturnal prison, hemmed in by lantana or *tangan tangan* on all sides.

Sleeping in sword grass is not that bad as long as you do not turn over too often. It was light enough to start the new day at about 5:40 and I had hopes of finding a way to the antenna field before noon. I had underestimated the density of the grass and tangle of vines even in areas not infested by lantana. My ability to thrash my way through was decreasing by the hour as I approached 24 hours without food or water.

By late morning, I had changed plans ,yet again, and headed back toward the top of the cliff. This time, I followed the cliff line farther around the north side of the bay and finally came upon a dirt road invaded by grass and overhanging branches. It turned toward the east, which would be the quickest way to reach a more traveled road. As soon as I had this thought, the road turned abruptly northeast through endless fields of *tangan tangan* and sword grass sweltering under a nearly cloudless sky. I realized this was a road to nowhere and probably not traveled by more than a few cars in a week.

Like a man in the desert, I was seeing "mirages; a tin building nestled among trees on a hill turned out to be the sky viewed through the branches of tall trees. I was lying in the shade for 40 minutes and then walking for 10 minutes in the heat of the day. In mid-afternoon, I was able to walk without resting, finally reached a park without a drinking fountain and connected with a paved road.

The first car was going in the opposite direction, but had a phone from which I called to have myself removed from the missing list. While waiting for a vehicle that had been dispatched by the Department of Public Safety, a truck with *water* stopped to offer assistance. After 30 hours of unplanned fasting, I downed the sweetest water I ever tasted.

I have a lot of shoreline left. I will keep you posted.

***To be continued.***

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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## EDITORIAL

# No free lunch

The impending collapse of General Motors presents Congress and the president with a choice between two domino effects, both potentially damaging to the U.S. economy. If the federal government does not lend GM money and the company goes bankrupt, the repercussions will spread throughout the country by way of the network of suppliers, dealers and local businesses that depend on GM and the other car manufacturers for their livelihoods. This could destroy hundreds of thousands of jobs when the economy can ill afford another shock. But if the federal government, frightened by these possibilities, gives GM just what it wants, it will be setting a precedent for even more multibillion-dollar bailouts—of automakers and of other troubled companies. The closure of DHL's operation in Wilmington, Ohio, is costing 9,000 people their jobs; Circuit City's bankruptcy means about 7,800 layoffs. If Detroit and its relatively well-compensated workforce qualify for federal aid, why not these firms and workers, too?

Strict conditionality could ease this dilemma. When the International Monetary Fund lent money to cash-strapped countries, it demanded that they overhaul their tax and spending policies to ensure that the IMF would be repaid and that the countries wouldn't continue bad habits. The consequences could be painful for those countries' citizens, but the alternative—national destitution—was worse, so countries generally accepted. Furthermore, the example deterred others from mismanaging their affairs in the first place.

Congress should act like the IMF toward GM and the others. Conditionality is catching on in Congress, but so far the ideas we have heard are either tepid or misguided. Some say the firms should stop dividend payments, but GM already has suspended dividends. Taking equity in GM or any of the money-losing Big Three won't help taxpayers if the companies keep losing money.

GM might have a future in the North American market, but not with its current business model. The company and the United Auto Workers did take some steps toward becoming smaller and nimbler through their 2007 labor agreement. Recent events have shown, however, that those measures were too little, too late. Now that they are turning to the nation as a whole for help, GM and the UAW cannot expect any deference to their past business decisions or collective bargaining arrangements. They, along with the company's creditors and dealers, must prepare for transformations more radical than the ones they found mutually agreeable a year ago. Everyone should have to make sacrifices, as Chrysler's workers and managers did in return for a federal loan guarantee in 1979. There must be a revamped labor agreement to achieve greater workplace flexibility and lower labor costs—as well as a haircut for holders of GM debt and an overhaul of the company's duplicative dealerships.

Unless Congress insists on such change, Detroit will be back for more help before long—probably accompanied by other industries demanding the same indulgent terms. And if GM, the UAW and other stakeholders balk at the terms, Congress should make clear that the alternative is bankruptcy court, which is likely to insist on a similarly radical restructuring.

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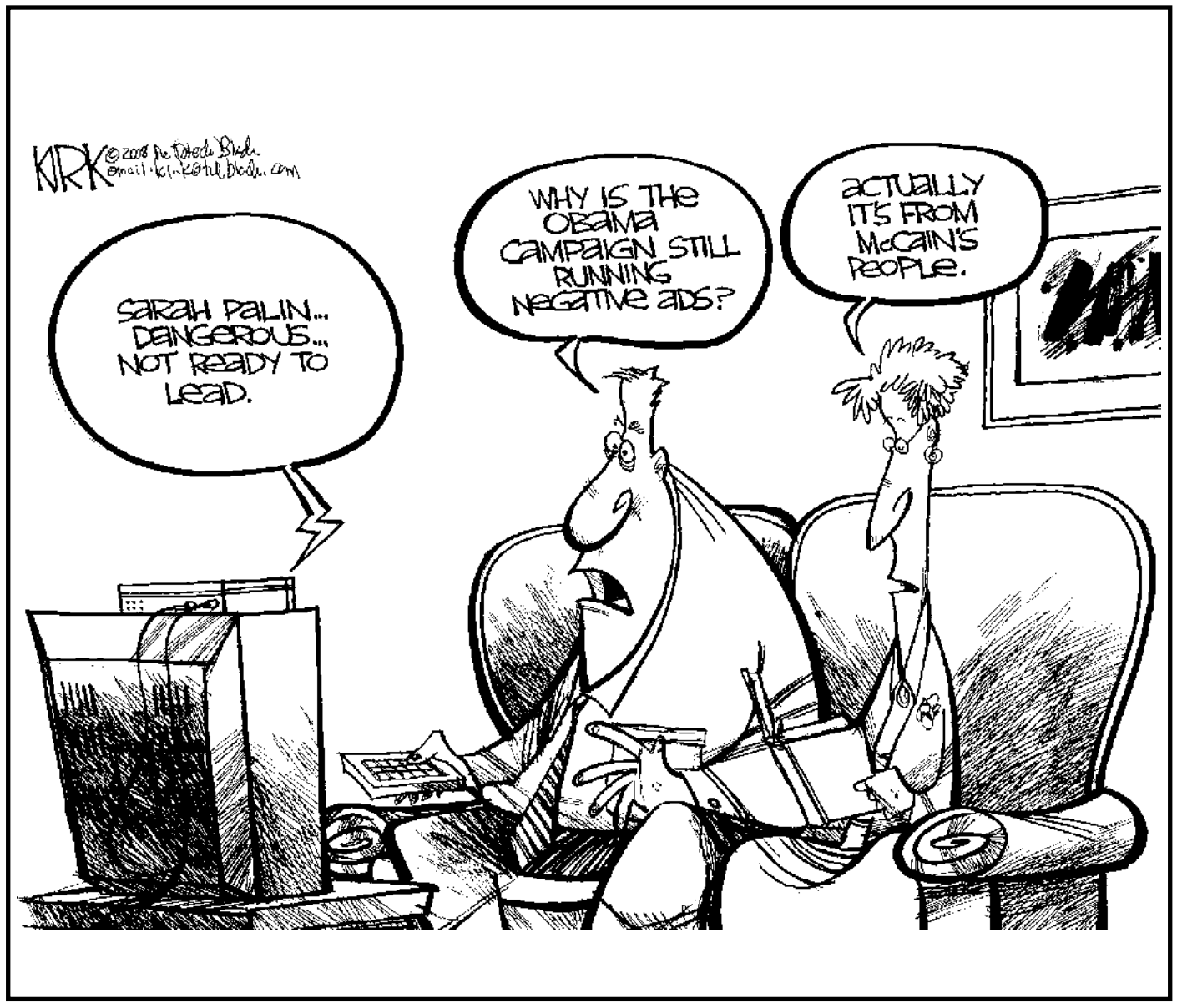
KRK ©2008 Kirk Anderson
email: kirk@kirktoons.com
SARAH PALIN... DANGEROUS... NOT READY TO LEAD.
WHY IS THE OBAMA CAMPAIGN STILL RUNNING NEGATIVE ADS?
ACTUALLY IT'S FROM McCAIN'S PEOPLE.

# Job One: First things first, Mr. President-elect

## Some thoughts on what Obama's top priority should be

**Special to The Washington Post**

The most important challenge facing President-elect Barack Obama is restoring America's standing in the eyes of the world. He must reinvent the United States as a country that listens, engages with others and has "a decent respect to the opinions of mankind." To this end, the following prescription might help reverse the damage of the Bush years:

Stop acting and sounding as if yours is the only way of seeing the world ("you're either with us or against us"), which makes all disagreement illegitimate or "anti-American." Don't define "anti-Americanism" so broadly that you make every critic into an enemy. Recognize that foreigners approach global problems with a different set of assumptions and experiences—and that they might have different priorities that Washington must learn to respect.

Demonstrate openness: Show that, despite internal preoccupations, the United States will never forget its responsibilities to the well-being of the world. Promote international solutions and multilateral institutions to implement them: Never again show the Bush administration's disdain for the views of the rest of the world.

Revive America's finest traditions. Stop repudiating the values for which the United States has long stood—close down Guantanamo Bay and Abu Ghraib, abjure torture and rendition, prosecute Blackwater's killings of civilians and vow that the United States will never conquer its enemies by behaving like them. Show the world that America will again be a land animated by hope, not impelled by fear.

**—Shashi Tharoor, former undersecretary general of the United Nations**

President Bush leaves office with the United States bogged down in a huge, unstable and conflict-ridden area from east of Egypt to west of India. To avert involvement in wider violence there, President-elect Barack Obama must rely more on what I call comprehensive regional diplomacy. That means:

1. A readiness to negotiate directly with Iran about its nuclear ambitions and both sides' regional security concerns, without preconditions and without counterproductive threats of war (though we should keep the option of much more severe sanctions on the table).

2. A revised strategy for Afghanistan that would explore the possibility of local arrangements with various Taliban forces. If local Taliban leaders agree to expel al-Qaida remnants, consider the possibility of a NATO drawdown in those regions.

3. An explicit U.S. diplomatic initiative defining the parameters of a fair Israeli-Palestinian peace, particularly no "right of return," a genuinely shared Jerusalem, an Israeli return to the 1967 lines with equitable territorial exchanges and a demilitarized Palestinian state, perhaps with U.S. peacekeepers.

If comprehensive diplomacy proves productive, the United States will have helped to pacify an increasingly volatile region. If it fails, we will be roughly where we are now: in the middle of a mess.

**—Zbigniew Brzezinski, national security adviser to President Carter**

A Category 5 hurricane has hit the world's financial system, but a bigger storm is approaching. Climate change threatens the world's economic, political and environmental health. Now is the time to remake the vast systems that power the nation and the world. The president-elect must make this his top economic priority—and establish a National Energy Council in the White House to get the job done. Critical needs include:

- Modernizing the electric-power grid with digital equipment and creating renewable-energy transmission corridors to bring wind and solar energy to market.
- Retooling Detroit to produce plug-in hybrid vehicles that will get American cars off oil.
- Putting U.S. contractors and builders to work on energy efficiency. Chicago's plan to retrofit 40 percent of its buildings by 2020 is a model approach for the nation.
- Investing much more boldly in research, development and deployment of the low-carbon technologies of the future.
- Capping our emissions to put a price on carbon, provide in-

*See JOB on next page*

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centives for investment in alternatives and secure a new U.N.-led global climate agreement

**—Ted Turner, chairman, United Nations Foundation**

The highest priority for the Barack Obama presidency must be securing nuclear weapons and materials to prevent them from falling into dangerous hands. The likelihood of nuclear terrorism might be low, but its impact would be devastating. Obama must make it a firm goal to secure all fissile materials before the end of his first term. If terrorists cannot gain access to weapons-grade material, they cannot build a nuclear device. Achieving this goal will require close cooperation and trade-offs with not only Russia but dozens of countries, but we can imagine no threat more dire.

The threat is bigger than terrorism: More nuclear-armed states means more risks to peace and stability. Obama will need to successfully conclude the six-party talks to end North Korea's nuclear weapons program and start a direct dialogue with Iran. We can help by making deeper nuclear arms reductions, ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and fulfilling the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty—steps that would have a powerful, positive effect.

**—Thomas H. Kean and Lee H. Hamilton, former co-chairmen, 9/11 Commission**

The state of the economy has to be President-elect Barack Obama's top priority. But repairing fences with Russia should be his most pressing foreign task. I'm afraid the United States has a lot to answer for here. Russia's August attack on Georgia was nasty, brutish and excessive, but Washington fell into a carefully prepared bear trap for which the West and NATO were totally unprepared.

Bad relations with Moscow are not one-way traffic; they go back to the days of President Clinton's secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, with all her built-in prejudices against Russia. We rubbed the fallen Russians' noses in the dirt. These are proud people, and it is hardly surprising that a considerable majority, of all ages, now supports a strongman, Vladimir Putin, in his nationalist defiance of the West. We disregard the Russians' current mood at our peril. To advance NATO into Russia's backyard in Ukraine and Georgia was a provocative folly—and, given NATO's current weakness, a meaningless gesture.

More foolish still was ringing Russia with antiballistic missile sites. The United States could begin by scrapping those costly and possibly ineffectual sites in exchange for meaningful concessions and a restoration of Russian goodwill. As in World War II, Russia should be our ally, not a potential foe.

**—Alistair Horne, author, *A Savage War of Peace***

President-elect Barack Obama must deal quickly and boldly with Afghanistan. But doing so will require an early initiative to help Pakistan and India settle their differences on Kashmir. The problems of Afghanistan and Pakistan are inseparable. But Pakistan's ability to deal with the Taliban and other extremists on its western border is hampered by its preoccupation with India, its traditional adversary to the east. India has resisted U.S. mediation on Kashmir in the past, but the growing U.S.-India strategic relationship may now make American involvement possible.

One intriguing model for Kashmir is the 1998 Belfast agreement, which established a web of overlapping institutions that have allowed the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland to in effect share sovereignty over Northern Ireland—and end decades of deep-seated violence.

**—Meghan O'Sullivan, former deputy national security adviser for Iraq and Afghanistan, 2005-07; lecturer at the Belfer Center, Harvard University**

America's economic vitality must be priority No. 1 because it is the foundation of both our global political power and our military might. Brainpower, innovation and entrepreneurship are the keys to 21st-century prosperity. The new president should focus on pro-growth tax policies, incentives for job creation and investments in innovation, worker re-training and education.

The United States levies the second-highest business tax rate in the world. A lower rate will keep more jobs here. Small business is the engine of economic growth. We must make it easier for small businesses to form, hire and prosper.

We also must enact comprehensive immigration reform so that the United States continues to attract entrepreneurs, risk-takers and hardworking people from all over the world. And we must engage fully in the world if we are to lead. We must embrace free trade with new enthusiasm.

**—Carly Fiorina, former chief executive of Hewlett-Packard and chief executive of Carly Fiorina Enterprises**

President Barack Obama's top priority must be keeping America safe. But to do so, he must break a promise he made to his supporters. During the campaign, he pledged an immediate, phased withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq, which he said would be completed by mid-2010. Although conditions in Iraq have improved dramatically over the past year—thanks largely to the surge in U.S. troops that he opposed—stability is still fragile. If our enemies perceive any weakness, they will take advantage to attack us not only in Iraq but elsewhere.

Candidate Obama said that we must pull out of Iraq in order to engage fully in what he has called "the central front" in the war on terror, Afghanistan. But a defeat in Iraq would make victory in Afghanistan far less likely. The new president will find out soon enough that the only thing worse than breaking a campaign promise is keeping one that would endanger American lives.

**—Linda Chavez, chairman of the Center for Equal Opportunity and a White House aide during the Reagan administration**

By moving immediately to use wind and solar power for electricity generation and tapping our abundant supplies of natural gas as a transportation fuel, we can reduce the amount of oil the United States imports by up to 50 percent over the next 10 years.

Increasing our wind capacity would provide more than 130,000 new jobs in the first year alone. The Energy Department estimates that it would create more than 3.5 million jobs over a 10-year period.

Americans must not be fooled by low gas prices at the pump. Whether the price is $2.50 per gallon or $4.50, hundreds of billions of dollars per year are going to foreign governments. Using our abundant natural gas reserves for transportation fuel is cheaper, cleaner and American. It will result in immediate savings and keep the money here to invest in new domestic sources.

For more than four decades, low gas prices, little federal leadership and a lack of accountability have not changed my target: Reducing our dependence on foreign oil. Fast.

**—T. Boone Pickens, chairman, BP Capital Management**

As President-elect Barack Obama turns his attention to the economy, I hope he will make the needs of the poor, and particularly poor children, a top priority—not just because the poor will be among the hardest hit in the current economic crisis, but because this country needs to end what the Children's Defense Fund calls "America's Cradle to Prison Pipeline." Because of our failure to educate children, a black boy born in 2001 has a 1 in 3 chance of eventually going to jail.

We need a massive intervention to educate poor children, starting at birth and staying with them so that they can succeed in school and the workplace. If we do this, these kids will avoid the fate of hundreds of thousands of poor young men and women who fail academically: unemployment, drug abuse, prison. Instead of contributing tax dollars to our society, these young people are contributing to the $62 billion the government spends annually on corrections.

**—Geoffrey Canada, president, Harlem Children's Zone**

The world's richest nation dare not forget the world's poorest people. President-elect Barack Obama's top priority should be adopting a strategy of what I call sustainable development—a strategy that combines economic development with environmental sustainability, for the United States and for the world. Such an approach merges science and policy, thinks in terms of decades rather than years, and recognizes that solutions must be cooperative and global rather than unilateral and national.

Currently, we lurch from crisis to crisis, from food to energy to natural disaster to finance, without recognizing that these cascading shocks are interconnected. Darfur, Somalia and Afghanistan are at least as much about water scarcity, climate and population as they are about politics; even the global financial crisis was triggered in part by the contemporaneous energy crisis. As president, Obama will need to lead the U.S. government in addressing these problems holistically. As thankless as government reorganization can be, he should create a new Department of International Sustainable Development to work together with the rest of the world on the Millennium Development Goals and the interconnected long-term challenges of poverty, disease, energy, climate, water and population—all of which are key to sustainable growth, prosperity and security.

**—Jeffrey Sachs, director of Columbia University's Earth Institute and special adviser to U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon**

It's easy to say, "Close Guantanamo." It's not just that the prison camp has become an international symbol of U.S. lawlessness, abuse and bungling. The real problem is that every time a prosecutor quits in disgust, a judge finds evidence of torture or another prisoner is cleared but not released, we blacken our own eye all over again. Guantanamo has become its own form of ongoing self-torment.

Closing Guantanamo will be enormously complicated. As a result of our actions there, some extremely dangerous terrorists held there can no longer be tried in domestic criminal proceedings. As a result of our actions there, men who were not terrorists six years ago may well be terrorists today. And as a result of our actions there, some detainees—such as the Muslim Chinese Uighurs—are completely unconnected to terrorism yet still unwelcome anyplace in the world.

But to close the camp is to recognize that the vast problems associated with moving, prosecuting and repatriating detainees are still preferable to perpetuating the fiction that we are holding just "the worst of the worst." Many of Gitmo's remaining detainees are merely the unluckiest of the unlucky. Others are from countries that just aren't willing to fight for them. Closing the prison camp will go a long way toward restoring America's reputation as a nation of laws and will signal a long-overdue willingness to admit to past error.

**—Dahlia Lithwick, legal correspondent, *Slate***

As his first order of business, President Obama will have to heal our relations with the rest of the world. Immediately after learning the names of his staff and making sure that they have fresh office supplies, he should announce a meeting at the White House in which all world leaders significant enough to own their own planes fly in and are put up in Washington hotels at their own expense. After all the delegations are treated to a generously discounted continental breakfast in the East Wing, the new president must in effect apologize to everyone in the world for our behavior over the past eight years and buttress that apology with a blizzard of lame yet creatively worded excuses. For instance, he could explain to the world that, like a sullen teen-ager, we were just going through a phase.

All right, another phase.

He must explain that, really, we swear, we were just, you know, in a bad place. But that's over. Now we feel like we've passed the subprime of our lives, and we promise to stop acting up, acting out ... acting period. Torture, nation-building, bugging our friends, bombing our enemies, snowing the United Nations—that's over. Kyoto, Guantanamo, New Orleans, Abu Ghraib, Darfur, Pennsylvania Avenue—we're on board with however the world community sees fit to deal with these trouble spots.

To assure those world leaders that we're not just paying lip service, end the meeting by announcing that they may all stay in town an extra night at weekday rates.

**—Peter Mehlman, former writer for *Seinfeld***

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲87° ▼78° | ▲87° ▼78° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼78° | ▲87° ▼78° |

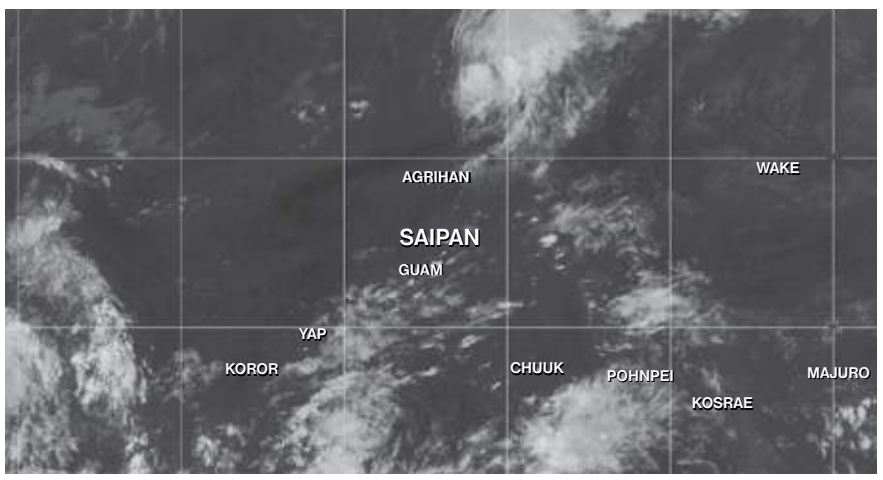
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thundershowers | ▲83 | ▼76 |
| Palau | Thundershowers | ▲85 | ▼77 |
| Yap | Thundershowers | ▲86 | ▼76 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲88 | ▼76 |
| Pohnpei | Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼73 |
| Kosrae | Cloudy | ▲88 | ▼77 |
| Majuro | Thundershowers | ▲85 | ▼76 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲69 | ▼60 |
| Beijing | Partly Sunny | ▲50 | ▼28 |
| Hong Kong | Cloudy | ▲84 | ▼73 |
| Honolulu | Mostly Cloudy | ▲81 | ▼70 |
| London | Cloudy | ▲59 | ▼45 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲90 | ▼56 |
| Manila | Partly Sunny | ▲86 | ▼75 |
| Melbourne | Mostly Sunny | ▲60 | ▼43 |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | ▲75 | ▼61 |
| New York | Partly Sunny | ▲51 | ▼38 |
| Osaka | Showers | ▲65 | ▼49 |
| Paris | Dreary | ▲56 | ▼43 |
| Pusan | Mostly Cloudy | ▲59 | ▼39 |
| Rome | Cloudy | ▲60 | ▼46 |
| Salem | Partly Sunny | ▲57 | ▼41 |
| San Francisco | Mostly Sunny | ▲73 | ▼51 |
| Seoul | Mostly Sunny | ▲47 | ▼26 |
| Tokyo | Showers | ▲62 | ▼51 |
| Washington, DC | Rain | ▲55 | ▼35 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2008**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The remnants of a nearly dissipated shear line are producing scattered showers within 50 miles of a line running from 24N141E to 21N137E. This area is northwest of the Marianas. A tropical disturbance has formed near 23N146E. Satellite imagery indicates that the disturbance now has 20-25 mile per hour surface winds and is moving away from the Marianas. This system is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 150 miles of a line running from 20N157E to north of 25N149E. This area is located north-northeast of the Marianas and northwest of Wake Island. A surface trough runs from EQ139E to about 10N142E. Divergent upper level wind flow above the trough is producing patchy areas of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between the equator and 10N from 138E to 143E. This is east and southeast of Yap. Trade wind convergence and favorable upper level winds are also producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in three additional areas. The first is just south of Pohnpei or within 150 miles of a line from 2N155E to 7N158E. The second area is within 150 miles of a line from 9N162E to 17N153E southwest of Wake Island and north of Pohnpei. The third and final area is within 100 miles of a line from 4N170E to 6N176E or southeast of Majuro.

## Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3:31AM Today | Low Tide: | 0.8 Feet |
| 10:52AM Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 4:06PM Today | Low Tide: | 1.4 Feet |
| 8:39PM Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:19AM | 5:44 PM |
| Monday | 6:20AM | 5:44 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:20AM | 5:44 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:21AM | 5:44 PM |
| Thursday | 6:21AM | 5:44 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 8:45PM | 9:15AM |
| Monday | 9:51PM | 10:16AM |
| Tuesday | 10:52PM | 11:09AM |
| Wednesday | 11:50PM | 11:56AM |
| Thursday | | 12:38PM |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 11, 2008

### DEPARTURES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 12:25pm | 1,7 |
| **Saipan-Guam** | | | |
| CO9317 | 5:00am | 5:50am | Daily |
| CO9313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | Daily |
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 1:20pm | 1,7 via Rota |
| CO9601 | 12:30pm | 1:20pm | 2,3,4,5,6 |
| CO9603 | 3:30pm | 4:20pm | Daily |
| CO9605 | 6:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily |
| CO9599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Narita** | | | |
| NW 099 | 5:00am | 7:40am | Daily |
| NW 078 | 8:25am | 1:30pm | 2,3,4,5,6,7 |
| NW 075 | 4:55pm | 7:30pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Osaka** | | | |
| NW 083 | 4:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Nagoya** | | | |
| NW 078 | 8:25am | 11:05am | Daily |
| **Saipan-Seoul** | | | |
| OZ 604 | 2:30am | 6:20am | 1 |
| OZ 604 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2,3,4,5,6,7 |
| OZ 606 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Busan** | | | |
| OZ 608 | 3:50am | 7:20am | 1,4,5,7 |
| **Saipan-Shanghai** | | | |
| OZ 608 | 1:30am | 4:30am | 2,6 |
| FM 844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2,6 |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| CO 9597 | 12:50pm | 1:20pm | 1,7 |
| **Guam-Manila** | | | |
| CO 893 | 5:50pm | 9:10pm | 3,5 via Koror |
| CO 933 | 8:00pm | 9:40pm | Daily |
| PR 111 | 6:00am | 7:50am | 1,2,4,6,7 |

### ARRIVALS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| CO 9598 | 3:25am | 4:00am | 5,6 |
| **Guam-Saipan** | | | |
| CO 9316 | 2:30am | 3:20am | 1,2,3,4,7 |
| CO9598 | 2:30am | 4:00am | 5,6 via Rota |
| CO9596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | Daily |
| CO9600 | 10:20am | 11:10am | Daily |
| CO9602 | 2:00pm | 2:50pm | Daily |
| CO9604 | 5:00pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| CO9606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |
| **Narita-Saipan** | | | |
| NW 076 | 10:15am | 2:40pm | Daily |
| NW 077 | 6:25pm | 1:25am+1 | 2,3,4,5,6,7 |
| NW 100 | 8:45pm | 1:15am+1 | Daily |
| **Osaka-Saipan** | | | |
| NW 084 | 10:40am | 3:10pm | Daily |
| **Nagoya-Saipan** | | | |
| NW 077 | 9:00pm | 1:25am+1 | Daily |
| **Seoul-Saipan** | | | |
| OZ 605 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ 603 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ 603 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1,2,3,4,5,6 |
| **Busan-Saipan** | | | |
| OZ 607 | 9:30pm | 2:40am+1 | 3,4,6,7 |
| **Shanghai-Saipan** | | | |
| OZ 607 | 5:30pm | 12:30am+1 | 1,5 |
| FM 843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1,5 |
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| CO 9598 | 2:30am | 3:00am | 5,6 |
| **Manila-Guam** | | | |
| CO 892 | 10:10pm | 5:30am+1 | 3,5 via Koror |
| CO 934 | 11:10pm | 4:40am+1 | Daily |
| PR 110 | 10:10pm | 4:00am+1 | 1,3,5,6,7 |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:00am | 7:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:50am | 8:20am | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:00am | 9:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:50am | 10:15am | Daily |
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:00pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:50pm | 5:25pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:00pm | 6:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:45pm | 7:15pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45am | 6:55am | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30am | 7:40am | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00am | 8:10am | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40am | 8:50am | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am | 9:20am | Daily |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40am | 11:50am | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 1:00pm | 1:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 2:30pm | 2:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 4:00pm | 4:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 4:40pm | 4:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 123 * | 5:40pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 125 * | 6:00pm | 6:10pm | Daily |
| **Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05am | 7:15am | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50am | 8:00am | Daily |
| FRE 106** | 8:20am | 8:30am | Daily |
| FRE 108** | 9:00am | 9:10am | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00am | 10:10am | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05am | 11:15am | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00pm | 12:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 1:30pm | 1:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 2:50pm | 3:00pm | Daily |
| FRE 120** | 4:20pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 122** | 5:00pm | 5:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 6:05pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 6:20pm | 6:30pm | Daily |

## Schedule of Religious Services

### CATHOLIC

**Mt. Carmel Cathedral**
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

**Korean Center**
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

**Kristo Rai Parish**
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

**Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish**
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

**Saint Jude Parish**
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

**San Antonio Parish**
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

**San Francisco de Borja-Rota**
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

**San Isidro-Rota**
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

**San Jose (Oleai) Parish**
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

**San Roque Parish**
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

**San Vicente Parish**
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

**Santa Remedios**
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

**Santa Soledad**
Sunday: 7:30am

### PROTESTANT

**Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan**
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

**Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

**Chinese Christian Church of Saipan**
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

**Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan**
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

**Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan**
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

**Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan**
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

**Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan**
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 5:30am (Tagalog); 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

**Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville**
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

**Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)**
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

**Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan**
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

**Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

**Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan**
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

**Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan**
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

**Missions Connection Ministry**
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

**Northern Marianas Christian Church**
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

**Saipan Bible Fellowship Church**
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

**Saipan Christian Church**
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

**Saipan Church of Christ**
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

**Saipan Community Church**
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan**
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

**First Baptist Church**
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday | | |
| | 9am | Sunday school |
| | 10am | Regular worship |
| | 6pm | worship |
| Wednesday | | |
| | 7pm | worship |

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

**Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center**
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

**Upper Room International Ministries**
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer

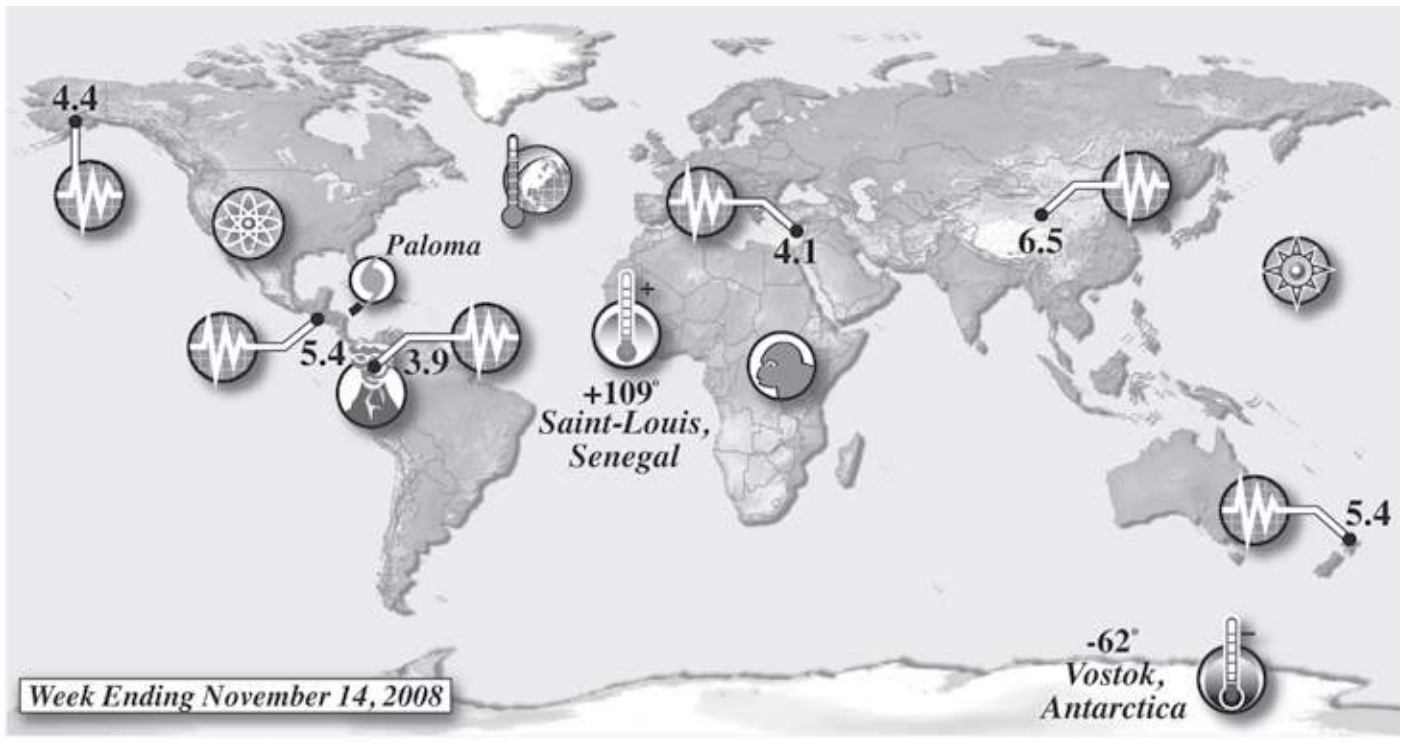
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 7am-9am | English service |
| | 7am-9am | Sunday school |
| | 10am-12noon | English service, Koblerville |
| Wednesday | 7pm-9pm | Prayer meeting |
| Saturday | 7pm-9pm | Tagalog service |

Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

**Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church**
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

# Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

**By STEVE NEWMAN**




## Mini Nukes

Compact nuclear reactors scarcely larger than a sports utility vehicle but able to power thousands of homes are slated to go on sale within five years, according to U.S. scientists. Department of Energy scientists working out of Los Alamos, N.M., say the Hyperion Power Module will be factory-sealed, contain no weapons-grade material and will be nearly impossible to break into because it will be encased in concrete and buried underground. The reactors will use a chemical reaction in uranium hydride to create heat, which is transferred to the surface to power steam turbines. The units are not water-cooled and cannot melt down, according to the firm that has licensed the technology. New Mexico-based Hyperion Power Generation Co. says each unit costs about $25 million, but monthly power fees would be only about $250 per home when divided among the 10,000 households it could serve. The unit's softball-sized fuel must be replaced every seven to 10 years.

## Solar Cycle 24

An eerie calm between sunspot cycles ended abruptly in early November as four of the first sunspots of the next 11-year period of solar activity finally appeared. The sun had been relatively free of any new spots since the previous cycle ended last year. Scientists were able to determine the new sunspots were part of the next cycle and not the one just ended by observing their polarity and distance from the solar equator. The first sunspots of a new cycle initially emerge at high latitudes, then appear progressively closer to the equator as the cycle matures. This cycle is the 24th since detailed solar record-keeping began in 1755.

## Warming Threshold

A new study by a team of scientists from three countries reveals that the world's atmospheric carbon dioxide ($CO_2$) must be reduced below its current level to avoid climate disasters. Writing in Open Atmospheric Science Journal, the authors say that earlier predictions pointing to a $CO_2$ danger level of 450 parts per million (ppm) is far higher than the level that will bring about catastrophic climate change. The current $CO_2$ concentration is 385 ppm and the optimum level would be less than 350 ppm, according to the team. They say they base their conclusion on improved data about the Earth's climate history and ongoing observations of change, especially in the polar regions.

## Ecuadorian Eruption

Ecuador's Reventador volcano spewed fresh bursts of ash near the capital city of Quito. Geophysics Institute spokesman Patricio Ramon said rising lava produced the explosion that rocked the 11,686-foot mountain before flowing down its flanks. Two nearby oil pipelines and a major highway could be threatened should activity from Reventador intensify, Ramon said. About 450 nearby residents voluntarily evacuated their homes after being warned of the heightened volcanic activity.

## Earthquakes

A sharp earthquake centered in a western Chinese mining region caused a few huts to collapse and some buildings to develop cracks, but no significant damage or any injuries were reported.

■ Earth movements were also felt in northern New Zealand, Cyprus, southwestern Colombia, El Salvador and south-central Alaska.

## Late-Season Hurricane

Only moderate damage was reported due to Hurricane Paloma's path across eastern Cuba despite the storm's Category 4 force just prior to landfall. Officials said the only significant damage occurred in the coastal city of Santa Cruz del Sur, where the storm roared ashore from the Caribbean with wind speeds said to have been up to 120 mph. Cuban authorities reported that 400 houses in the city were destroyed and another 4,000 were damaged.

## Co-Lateral Victims

More than a quarter of the world's surviving mountain gorillas were left with no official protection after Tutsi rebels overran and occupied Africa's oldest national park. Renewed conflict between the Democratic Republic of the Congo's government and fighters led by Gen. Laurent Nkunda has also created a massive humanitarian crisis. Thousands of people have been left malnourished and ill after being displaced by the advancing rebel forces, including more than 50 wildlife rangers who had spent years protecting the gorillas and other wildlife in Virunga Park prior to being driven out by the rebels. The park director, Emmanuel de Merode, called the seizure of the park's headquarters "unprecedented, even in all the years of conflict in the region." During repeated attacks in 2007, 10 of the endangered primates were killed. Park officials say that some of the rebels are now hunting and camping in the same forested hills that are home to about 200 of the last remaining 700 mountain gorillas.

*Distributed by: Universal Press Syndicate*
*www.earthweek.com*
*© MMVIII Earth Environment Service*

## OFFBEAT BRIEFS

### Boy allegedly hits mom with saw, offers her $5

**FORT PIERCE, Fla.** (AP)—Authorities say an 11-year-old boy hit his mother in the head with a saw and then offered her $5 not to call police. The St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office reported that the boy and his 41-year-old mother got into an argument Wednesday when she was trying to get him to take his medication. The boy left and went to another home, where he began hitting a tree with a saw. When the mother finally caught up with the boy, authorities say he hit her in the head with the saw, causing a minor laceration. A sheriff's report said that's when the boy began pleading with his mother not to call police and offered her a $5 bill. The boy is facing an aggravated battery charge.

### Cops use greasy fingerprints to nab hungry burglar

**LYNCHBURG, Va.** (AP)—A prosecutor says greasy fingerprints led police in Virginia to a suspect with sticky fingers. Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Bethany Harrison said Lynchburg police matched prints on an orange juice bottle left at the scene of a breaking and entering to 33-year-old Bernard Wood. He was sentenced Friday to six years in prison after being found guilty of three counts of burglary and two counts of grand larceny. Harrison said Wood stole appliances, jewelry and tools from several homes in June and raided his victims' refrigerators. At one crime scene, police found the juice bottle and remnants of a chicken.

### Man accused of urinating on arresting officer

**SHEBOYGAN, Wis.** (AP)—A 35-year-old man faces charges after allegedly driving drunk and then urinating in the back of a squad car and on the arresting officer. A criminal complaint said the man was pulled over early Wednesday after an officer saw him driving erratically and striking a pole at a gas station. The complaint said the man failed field sobriety tests and when he was being taken to the police station, urinated in the back of the squad car and sprayed the officer, hitting him in the back of the head. The man is facing four felony charges and two misdemeanors. He faces a maximum of 15 years in prison if convicted.

# Good Housekeeping

THE WASHINGTON POST

Annie Selke's Glam sofa is part of a new 80-piece collection for Vanguard Furniture.

## When a chaise meets an ottoman

Designer Annie Selke loved watching the TV show "Gossip Girl" while snuggled into the curvy green sofa of her own design in the bedroom of her farmhouse in the Berkshires. But it wasn't quite comfortable enough for her and three dogs.

"I wanted to be able to put my legs all the way out and sort of finish the circle," Selke says. "So I designed a giant 85-inch ottoman that fits snugly beside the sofa so you can fully recline if you want.

"I call it a 'chottoman' because it's a combination of a chaise and ottoman."

Both her Glam sofa and kidney-shaped chottoman are part of a new 80-piece collection for Vanguard Furniture. Selke, whose other companies include Pine Cone Hill linens, Dash & Albert rugs and Potluck Studios tableware, is designing wood tables and chairs and metal canopy beds and upholstery for Vanguard.

"The great thing about the chottoman is that you can also pull it away from the sofa for a conversation grouping. It's a dual-function item," Selke says. Now she, her daughter and the dogs can all lounge together for an hour of gossip on Monday nights.

## Reinventing the banquette for a round table

Now that banquettes have made themselves comfortable in kitchens and dining rooms, Mitchell Gold+Bob Williams has introduced a free-standing version: an upholstered bench specifically designed to fit under a round table.

The Finley, a curved-back bench with a narrow seat and arms, generated a lot of comments in the showroom at the fall market. "Our team worked hard on this to get just the right pitch on it and make sure it was easy for two people to move it close to the table," Mitchell Gold says. "I sort of think of it as a movable banquette."

Business partner Bob Williams is buying one in ice blue to put in his own house. "I think if you look through a pair of large double doors across a dining table, it's wonderful to see a burst of color in contrast to the table and chairs. It helps make a room much more interesting," Williams says.

We think it would also be a perfect spot for a napping dog or cat.

THE WASHINGTON POST

The Finley Dining Bench, by Mitchell Gold+Bob Williams, is a free-standing banquette specifically designed to fit under a round table.

# In N.C., designers gamble on next big thing

By JURA KONCIUS
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

**HIGH POINT, N.C.**—Like they do every fall and spring, the mandarins of the furniture business gathered in High Point last month to introduce new designs just as consumers were flinging their 401(k) statements into the trash.

The economic meltdown has created a tough situation for furniture manufacturers and retailers, whose sales are suffering from the housing market collapse, credit freeze and crisis in consumer confidence. In the midst of the industry-wide pain, however, many manufacturers worked hard to come up with designs to entice cash-strapped customers.

THE WASHINGTON POST

The Evan Armoire, new to Hickory Chair's James River collection, is an example of how changing one element in a design can alter its look.

## At Hickory Chair, make it your own

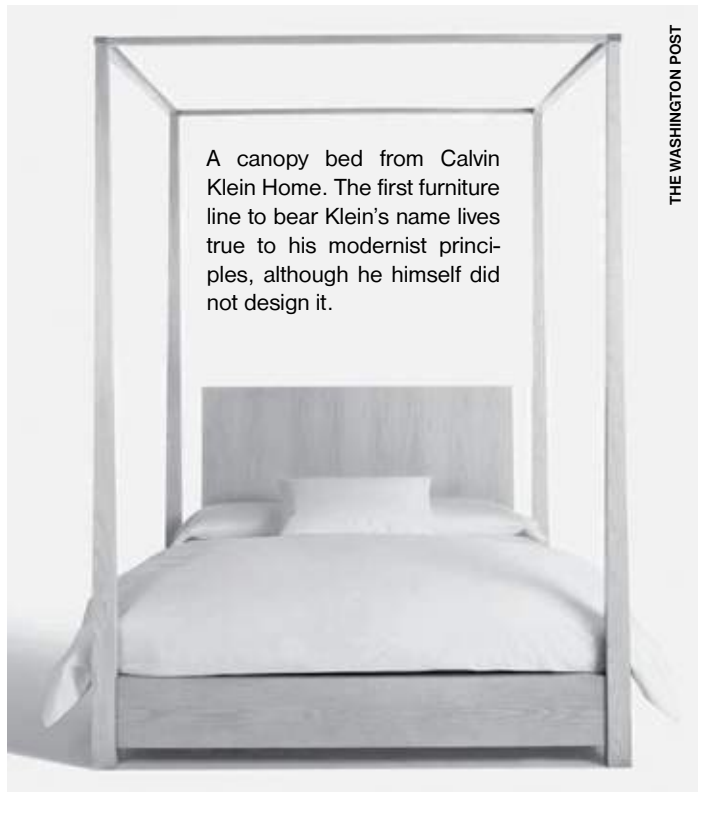
Personalization and customization is a major trend in the furniture business. Some customers are ordering monograms or initials on seat backs or headboards. At Hickory Chair, President Jay Reardon decided the way to differentiate his high-end styles was to let consumers feel as though they were creating one-of-a-kind pieces. For the first time, Hickory Chair customers can even provide their own hardware, in addition to specifying finishes, hand painting or special sizes.

The Evan Armoire, new to Hickory Chair's James River collection, is an example of how changing one element in a design can alter its look. The maple armoire is a modern version of an 18th-century cabinet. It has a panel in the front with a latticework overlay. Customers can order the armoire door panels in clear glass, antique mirror or maple. "It totally changes the style of the piece," Reardon says. "The real luxury today is choice."

## Channeling the master of modernism

Fashion designer Calvin Klein built his career on spare lines and elegant proportions. Now, the first furniture line to bear his name lives true to his modernist principles, although the master himself did not design it. (His company was acquired by Phillips-Van Heusen in 2003.)

Klein did create the first Calvin Klein home collection in 1995. The understated bed linens and tableware were so successful there was talk at the time of "Calvinizing" your home. The furniture was years in the making but is true to its roots. The muted colors and natural textures of the living room, dining room and bedroom designs are reminiscent of Klein's classy runway styles. The line ($850-$5,000) includes walnut daybeds upholstered in natural linen, streamlined chests with leather tab hardware, and a bleached wood canopy bed. Finishes range from matte to glossy. About 60 pieces will debut at Macy's in January, 65 more at other retailers in February.



THE WASHINGTON POST

A canopy bed from Calvin Klein Home. The first furniture line to bear Klein's name lives true to his modernist principles, although he himself did not design it.

# Baker injects a touch of Hollywood allure

THE WASHINGTON POST

A steel Abalone Chandelier from Baker Furniture, described by one designer as being "like a brooch on an elegant sheath dress."

A new home collection by Baker Furniture dips into the rich legacy left by Los Angeles designer Tony Duquette, who decorated for J. Paul Getty and the Duchess of Windsor.

Last year's lavish coffee-table book on Duquette's life as a set designer, jeweler and interior decorator fueled interest in him and his enormous body of work, even though it has been nine years since his death at age 85. Baker teamed with Duquette's business partner Hutton Wilkinson to reproduce some of the iconic pieces. There are tall resin Regency Pagoda Lamps, an undulating gold Biomorphic Mirror and Console designed for a Bel Air estate in the 1960s and copies of his delicate Paris Snowflake Screens.

Warrenton, Va., designer Barry Dixon has already ordered one of the steel Abalone Chandeliers ($19,992) to install in a modern family room of some clients in suburban Washington. "This chandelier is like a brooch on an elegant sheath dress," Dixon says. "You only need one truly amazing thing like that in the room."

# Century designs with technology in mind

THE WASHINGTON POST

For those who want to showcase their investment in technology, Century created the Milan Media Unit, a contemporary entertainment center.

Century Furniture was one of many manufacturers at the fall market that asked its designers to come up with products to accommodate LCD or plasma TVs.

"There are two kinds of customers: ones that want to display their TV and those that want to hide it," says Edward Tashjian, Century's vice president of marketing.

For those who want to showcase their investment in technology, Century created the Milan Media Unit, a contemporary entertainment center. The design is basically a wall panel of veneered satin walnut. The long narrow base of the unit has three drawers. The Milan comes with a sturdy mounting bracket that supports a TV of up to 50 inches. A five-outlet receptacle has surge protection, and a wire management system avoids that dreaded cluttered look.

# New styles designers hope we can't do without

The French dressing of the American home began 40 years ago when Pierre Deux brought us the Provencal look of toile, wrought-iron chandeliers, faience tableware and cotton print tablecloths. Now, a new licensed collection of Pierre Deux furniture by Highland House is about to come to a wider audience.

The company, started by Pierre Le Vec and Pierre Moulin as an antiques shop in New York's Greenwich Village, became a nationwide chain. The two Pierres sold the company in 1989. In the early 1990s, the new owners filed for Chapter 11. But in 1993, Pierre Deux was purchased by Hedwige and Andre Cointreau, a couple who owns Le Cordon Bleu cooking school, and the two have built the business back up to 20 U.S. stores.

"Americans like the uniqueness of it, the chic and the charm, and love the stories behind it," says Hedwige Cointreau, whose homes in Paris and the Loire Valley were combed for antiques reproduced for the 60-piece collection of ladder-back chairs with rush seats and upholstered daybeds.

THE WASHINGTON POST

A new licensed collection of Pierre Deux furniture by Highland House is about to come to a wider audience. Shown is Pierre Deux's Pompadour Banquette.

## KITCHEN MAGIC

# Hero Pizza

We've gathered all of the best ingredients from a hot and saucy hero sandwich—Italian sausage, peppers and cheese—and put them on a kid-friendly pizza.

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 teaspoon olive oil
8 ounces italian turkey sausage, casings removed
1 medium red pepper, thinly sliced
1 medium yellow pepper, thinly sliced
1 package (8-ounce) sliced mushrooms
Salt
Pepper
1 pound fresh or frozen (thawed) pizza dough
3/4 cup jarred marinara sauce
1 1/4 cups shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese
1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

1. Preheat oven to 450 F. Grease 15 1/2-inch by 10 1/2-inch jellyroll pan with 1 tablespoon olive oil.
2. In 12-inch nonstick skillet, heat remaining 1 teaspoon oil on medium 1 minute. Add sausage; cook 6 to 8 minutes or until cooked through, breaking up sausage with side of spoon. With slotted spoon, transfer sausage to bowl.
3. To drippings in skillet, add peppers and cook, covered, on medium 3 to 4 minutes or until tender, stirring occasionally. Add mushrooms and cook, uncovered, 6 to 8 minutes longer, stirring occasionally. Return sausage to skillet; stir in 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper. Remove skillet from heat.
4. With fingers, pat dough onto bottom and up sides of prepared pan. Spread marinara sauce on dough; top with sausage mixture, mozzarella and Parmesan. Place pan on rack in lower third of oven. Bake pizza 20 to 22 minutes or until topping is hot and bubbly and crust is browned. Serves 4.

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# Space heater trips circuit breaker

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

**Q: I have a space heater that, every time I turn it on, causes the circuit to shut off almost immediately. Is there something wrong with the wiring in my house?—David L., Lexington, Ky.**

**A:** My first inclination is that something is wrong with the space heater, not the wiring. Many space heaters draw a lot of power, but a heater that regularly trips circuits may be faulty.

Run through a short checklist first: Do you plug the heater into the same wall outlet every time, or have you tried it throughout the house? Are there other electrical appliances sharing the same circuit? Is the space heater in good condition and less than 10 years old? Do the plug and power cord get very hot when using the heater? Is the outlet being used in good condition? Does the heater's plug fit snugly into it? Does any other appliance trip the circuit when plugged into it?

If you cannot find anything wrong with either the space heater or the outlet, and there are few or no other appliances sharing the circuit, first take the space heater to an appliance service center to be checked by a professional (never try to repair a space heater yourself).

Should nothing be found wrong with the space heater, contact an electrician to inspect your home's wiring.

Some quick tips on using portable space heaters safely: Never place a heater on furniture; place it on the floor instead. Clear several feet of space around the heater. Don't run the power cord underneath a rug, and avoid using an extension cord, if possible. If you must use one, use only a UL- or ETL-rated extension cord marked No. 12 or No. 14 A WG (indicating the wire gauge).

**HOME TIP**: Safety is paramount when using space heaters, and the U.S. government publishes information on keeping yourself safe when using one. Information is available online at http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PUBS/463.html, courtesy of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

*Send questions or home-repair tips to homeguru2000@hotmail.com, or write This Is a Hammer, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.*

# The Good Life

# All the tired horses, or at least some

By SANDRA MCKEE
(C) 2008, THE BALTIMORE SUN

BUCKEYSTOWN, Md.—Allie Conrad picks up a lead rope and walks the big chestnut down the lane to another field at Long Lane Farm. The horse moves gingerly because of cartilage problems in his ankles.

The horse, Thisbidsforyou, was bred to be a winner, as all racehorses are in the eyes of their breeders. Sired by Winning Bid and with a pedigree that includes Mr. Prospector, Secretariat and Northern Dancer, he certainly had a chance. But bad ankles derailed his racing career.

But Thisbidsforyou got lucky—twice. Unlike thousands of other exhausted, broken-down thoroughbreds, Thisbidsforyou has a future, thanks to his last trainer, a compassionate horseman, and Conrad.

Conrad is executive director of Canter Mid Atlantic, a nonprofit organization that takes in worn-out racehorses, saving them from what could be a horrific end in a killing shed.

"Look at him," Conrad said, as Thisbidsforyou nuzzled her hair. "How could anyone put an air bullet in his head and then have him eaten as food?"

Conrad and a group of 30 volunteers are trying to save run-down and injured racehorses from being pumped up on steroids and painkillers that mask injuries so they can continue to race when they shouldn't, and also from being shipped to auctions, where representatives of companies in Canada and Mexico are known to gather to buy the horses for food-processing plants.

It is at these plants that terrified horses are killed with the bullets to which Conrad referred.

During the past three years, Canter Mid Atlantic has placed more than 45 rehabilitated former racehorses in new homes as show horses, riding horses and pets, and has enabled trainers and owners to sell or give away more than 3,000 unwanted horses to better situations on the nonprofit's Web site, www.canterusa.org/midatlantic. Conrad has had to euthanize 15 others because their injuries were too severe for recovery.

Here in Frederick County, at a 250-acre family-owned horse boarding farm, is one site where Conrad rents space for Canter's recovering thoroughbreds. She is able to keep 11 horses at Long Lane Farm. She boards four others in Poolesville, two in Damascus, three in Delaware, and two each in West Virginia and Virginia for a total of 24, which is Canter's financial limit.

Thisbidsforyou came to Long Lane Farm a few months ago after experiencing his first piece of good fortune—being claimed by Bowie-based trainer Fred Groves, who came to realize he had claimed a horse that had been run beyond reason.

"I claimed a horse in bad shape, and I didn't know it," Groves, 59, said. "I thought he had a knee bothering him. But he had cartilage degeneration (that was masked by drugs) in both his left and right ankles. About 40 percent gone.

"He'll make someone a good riding horse or a pet. He has such a nice disposition; I wasn't going to butcher him."

Thoroughbreds such as Thisbidsforyou come to Conrad with worried faces—stress lines below their eyes and sunken pockets above. They come to her with wounded legs and ankles and depleted spirits.

They are damaged racehorses at the end of their careers, facing unknown and often desperate futures.

"They come here, and their muscles are very tense and they're body-sore," Conrad said as she led the way into an open field. "I like to do this for them. I just let them run free here in the fields for three months and let them be horses. While they're out here, their brains change. A few weeks in, their muscles will melt and be malleable as they let go of their stress. The little wrinkles under their eyes and the hollows disappear."

Conrad, 34, who works full time for a consulting company in McLean, Va., has run the nonprofit for eight years. This year, she will operate with an annual budget of $60,000, an all-time high, accumulated through donations, fundraisers and grants from Thoroughbred Charities of America and Blue Horse Charities.

A good part of the funding also comes from selling the reconditioned and retrained horses, which bring in an average of $3,000 each. She said 100 percent of the money goes back into the program.

The organization continually tries to persuade trainers and owners to sell their worn-out horses to Canter for $300 to $600, the price most would bring at auction. The organization pays the horses' veterinary bills, boarding and retraining costs.

Canter Mid Atlantic is one of several groups rescuing racehorses. Another is ReRun, which got a boost when part of Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Big Brown's Haskell Stakes winnings were donated. Canter USA has seven programs, with branches in Maryland, Ohio, Illinois, New England, Texas, Pennsylvania and California. A program is being started in Florida, and Conrad is about to start another at Delaware Park.

"I see hundreds of horses over a year whose only recourse is euthanasia," Conrad said. "It's so sad. There is this grand misconception that these horses are owned by people who live on $500,000 farms and that they keep their horses forever.

"It's just not true."

In June, Conrad gave emotional testimony at a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee hearing on horse racing.

**ON THE NET**
www.canterusa.org/midatlantic

"Horses race on fractures and they race to exhaustion, but they always run as fast as their bodies will allow," she said. "Injected with steroids and painkillers, their only option is to run the great race, until they can't run any longer. One thing has been made very clear to me. Racehorses are not protected from horrific ends by their pedigree, their high sales price at the high-end auctions or by the money they win for owners."

She said sons of Belmont Stakes winners AP Indy and Tabasco Cat have benefited from Canter's service. And Canter has found homes for Triple Crown-nominated 3-year-olds, including Bobby V, who won nearly $1 million as a thoroughbred and is now living what Conrad calls "the good life" as a hunting horse.

Conrad has been watching state racing commissions that have imposed and are imposing bans on steroids. But, she said last week: "Anabolic steroids are not what's causing horses to break down.

"Racing needs to look at joint injections and race-day anti-inflammatory injections more closely and use corticosteroids in the manner in which they are intended—therapeutically," she said. "Meaning, use on injuries with mandatory rest afterward. In my opinion, nobody should be able to inject a joint and run a horse the next day—or that day. There should be zero tolerance for people who cannot use medications in the manner for which they are intended—to heal, not to hide injuries."

If Thisbidsforyou could talk, he could speak on the subject of joint injections. Groves said Thisbidsforyou's story is not unusual and estimates that half of the horses that pass through racing barns wind up being auctioned and sold to food-processing companies for consumption in foreign countries.

"Most trainers like their horses," Groves said. "But owners don't always. To many they're just pieces of property and a bottom line. Once a horse gets a little hurt, it's a downhill process. A lot of owners say, 'Drop them (in class and into a claiming race) and get rid of them and let someone else deal with it.'"

Still, Groves said, generally, trainers and owners will give a horse away rather than have him destroyed.

The trainer said most thoroughbreds that aren't pumped up on steroids and drugs are like 4- and 5-year-old children.

Thisbidsforyou and his 10 fellows at Long Lane Farm walk and frolic over the rolling hills. Conrad said that on a sizzling afternoon in late summer, they showed just how childlike they can be.

"A creek runs through those trees," she said, pointing to the area, then showing cell-phone video she shot that afternoon. "They were standing there, nose to tail. I watched for a while. One would go into the grove and after a little while emerge from the other side of the trees. I walked around to see what they were doing and found they were enjoying their own water slide."

The footage showed the horses, one by one entering the trees and sliding down a muddy hill into the water, rolling and splashing. When one horse leaves the water, the next one slides down.

"I felt like I had happened upon the thoroughbred version of the mystical elephant dance," she said.

Conrad said she sees a lot of sad, painful situations doing Canter's work, but the moment she sees these horses in the field, she has a clear vision of why she continues.

"Helping these horses just makes me so happy," she said.

# Bob Weber Jr.'s Slylock Fox and Comics for Kids

How many things in this scene begin with the letter S?

Answer -- Shadow, skeleton, spider, sock and shirt. Any more?

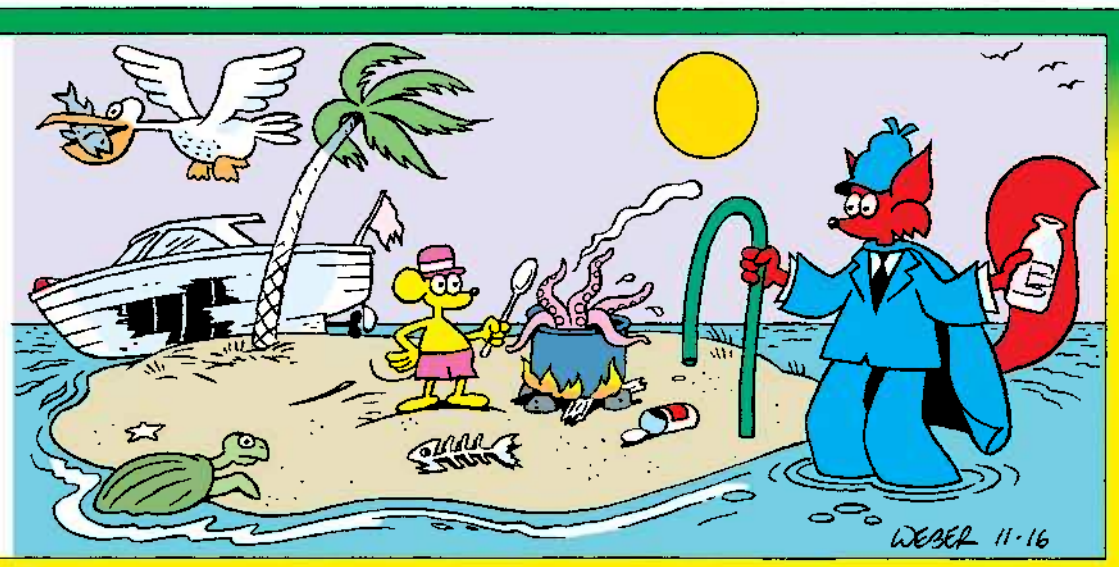
The scrambled words are things found in this scene. How many can you unscramble?

1) NIWODW
2) ECENF
3) UMEOS
4) ROCATR
5) DULCO
6) BIRTAB
7) EBNO
8) LACROL

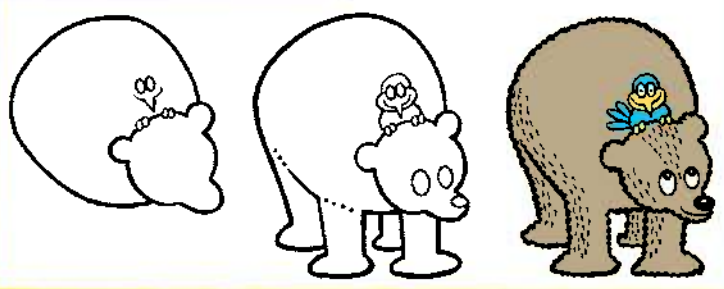
Answer: 1) Window 2) Fence 3) Mouse 4) Carrot 5) Cloud 6) Rabbit 7) Bone 8) Collar

A storm left Slylock Fox and Max Mouse marooned without drinking water. Max suggests they drink seawater, but Slylock warns that its high salt content is deadly. Fortunately, Slylock knows how to make seawater safe to drink. Do you?

Solution -- Slylock will put seawater into the jar, attach the hose to the top of the jar, and boil the water. Steam will flow and condense in the hose. Pure, safe water will drip out the other end into the can.




## HOW TO DRAW a bear



## YOUR DRAWING

Today's wonderful artist is Kiauna Facemyer, age 8, of Charleston, WV

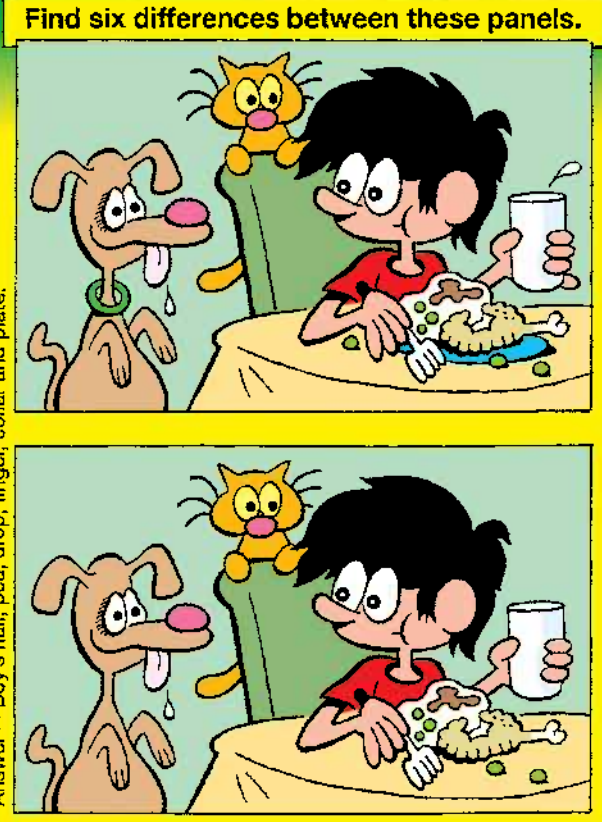
Submit your drawings at **www.kidcartoonists.com**

The United States bought Alaska from Russia in 1867 for ...

a) 2 cents an acre
b) 25 cents an acre
c) 2 dollars an acre
d) 10 dollars an acre

Answer -- a)

## Find six differences between these panels.



Answer -- Boy's hair, pea, drop, finger, collar and plate.

The fourth ***Find The Six Differences*** collection is here. Send $4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to **Six differences No. 4** P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

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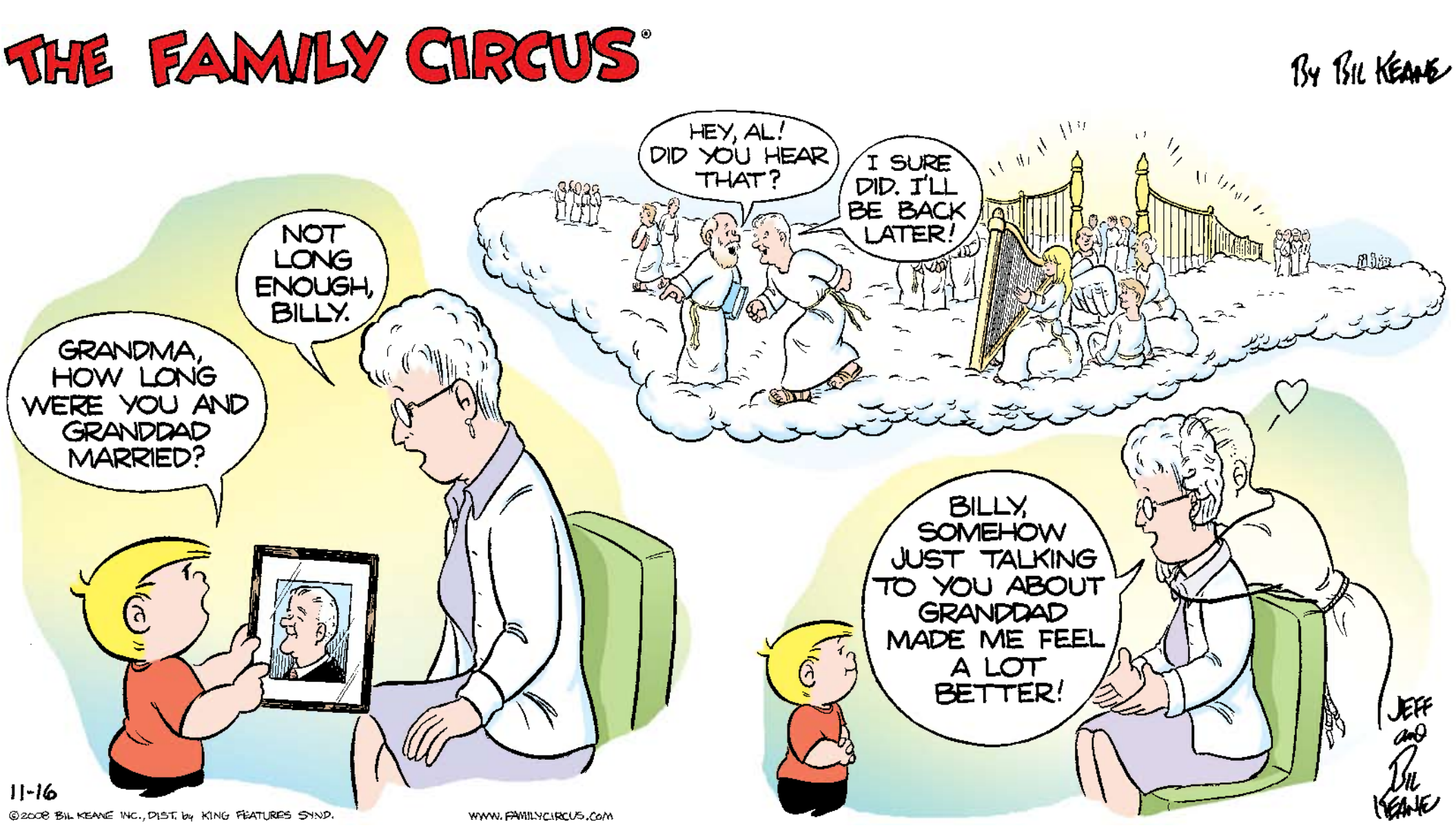
# THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

By Bil Keane


GRANDMA, HOW LONG WERE YOU AND GRANDDAD MARRIED?
NOT LONG ENOUGH, BILLY.
HEY, AL! DID YOU HEAR THAT?
I SURE DID. I'LL BE BACK LATER!
BILLY, SOMEHOW JUST TALKING TO YOU ABOUT GRANDDAD MADE ME FEEL A LOT BETTER!
11-16
JEFF and BIL KEANE

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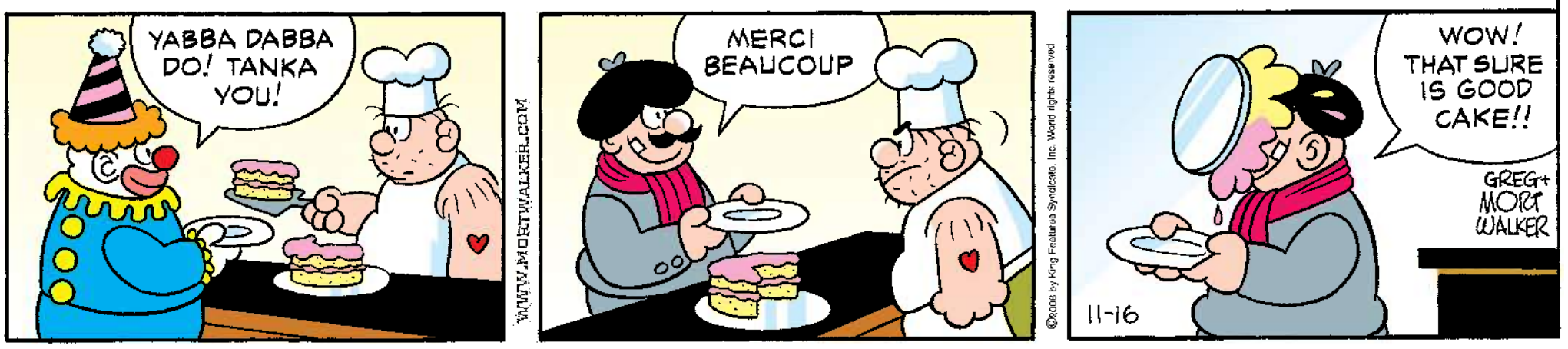
Mort Walker's

# beetle bailey®

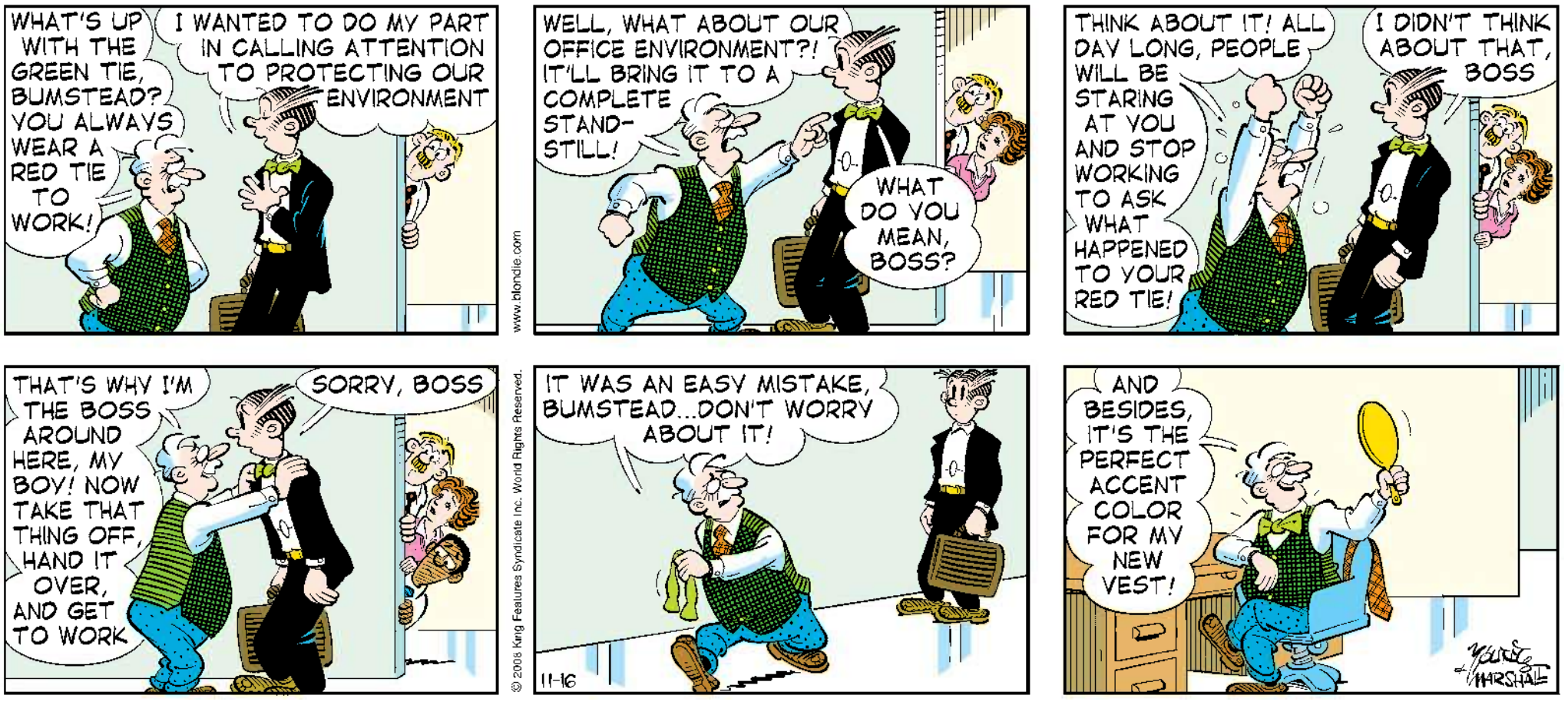
WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING?
COOKIE'S MAKING HIS CLASSIC CAKE TODAY
1
WE SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD HIM
NOW THERE WON'T BE ANY LEFT FOR US!
ZOOM!
WOW! THAT SURE WAS GOOD CAKE!
I'LL HAVE SOME MORE, THANK YOU
SORRY. THE LIMIT IS ONE SLICE PER PERSON
GRACIAS, PODNER




# BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

OH HONEY, THAT NEW GREEN TIE LOOKS GORGEOUS ON YOU!
THANK YOU, DEAR
I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR WHAT EVERYBODY SAYS ABOUT THAT TIE OF YOURS!
KISS


WHAT'S UP WITH THE GREEN TIE, BUMSTEAD? YOU ALWAYS WEAR A RED TIE TO WORK!
I WANTED TO DO MY PART IN CALLING ATTENTION TO PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT
WELL, WHAT ABOUT OUR OFFICE ENVIRONMENT?! IT'LL BRING IT TO A COMPLETE STAND-STILL!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BOSS?
THINK ABOUT IT! ALL DAY LONG, PEOPLE WILL BE STARING AT YOU AND STOP WORKING TO ASK WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR RED TIE!
I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT THAT, BOSS
THAT'S WHY I'M THE BOSS AROUND HERE, MY BOY! NOW TAKE THAT THING OFF, HAND IT OVER, AND GET TO WORK
SORRY, BOSS
IT WAS AN EASY MISTAKE, BUMSTEAD...DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
11-16
AND BESIDES, IT'S THE PERFECT ACCENT COLOR FOR MY NEW VEST!
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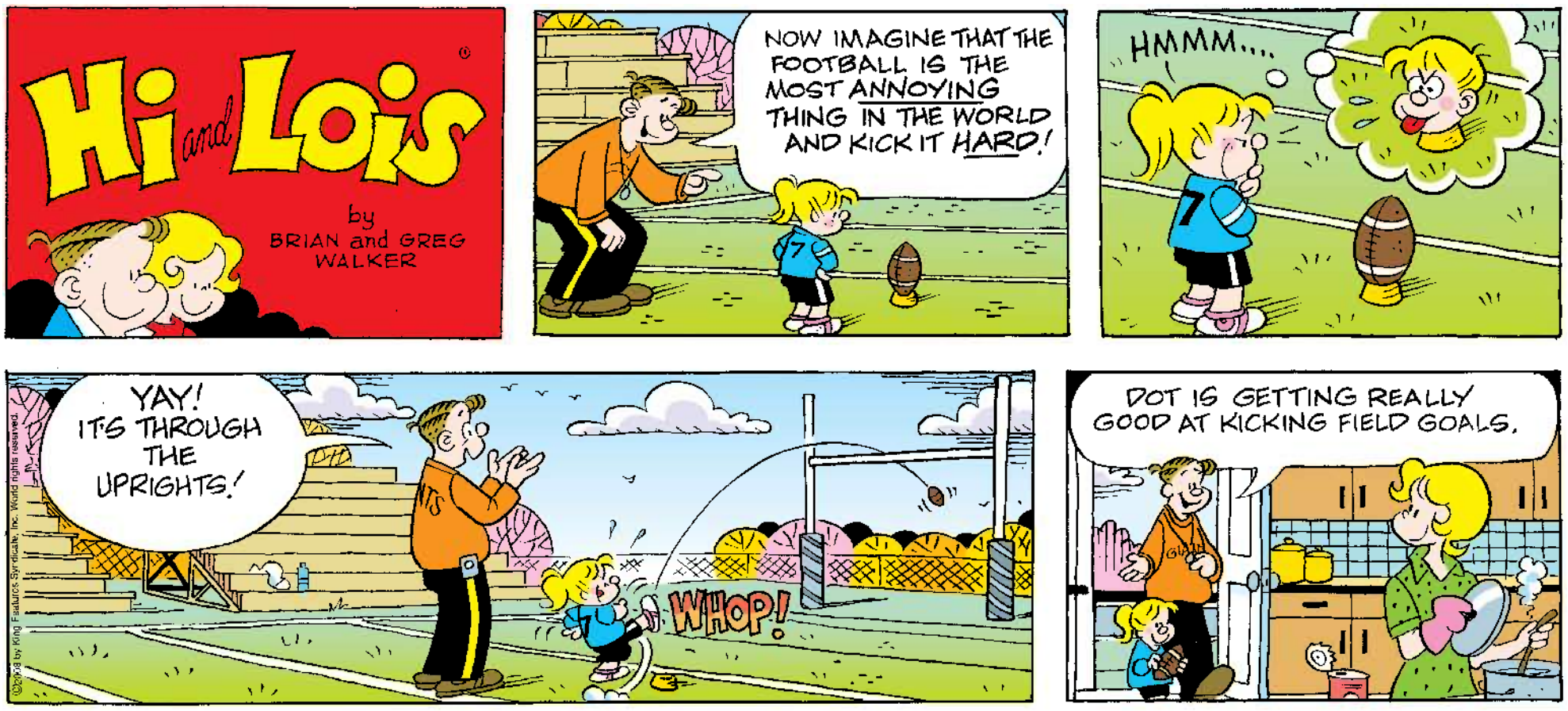
Hi and Lois
by BRIAN and GREG WALKER
NOW IMAGINE THAT THE FOOTBALL IS THE MOST ANNOYING THING IN THE WORLD AND KICK IT HARD!
HMMM....
YAY! IT'S THROUGH THE UPRIGHTS!
WHOP!
DOT IS GETTING REALLY GOOD AT KICKING FIELD GOALS.
I'M GOING TO TRY OUT FOR THE POP WARNER TEAM NEXT YEAR.
WHAT?
DON'T WORRY, KICKERS RARELY GET INJURED.
GIANTS
CHANCE BROWNE
...AND WHEN I GO PRO, I GET PAID MILLIONS JUST FOR PLAYING A FEW MINUTES!
11-16
Hank Ketcham's
Dennis the MENACE
Puppy Love
I'D WANNA TAKE A LOT MORE WALKS....
...IF THERE WAS A CANDY STORE DOWN THE STREET.
HEY, MISSUS DONOVAN! HEY, RUFUS!
YOU'RE JUST THE PERSON I'M LOOKING FOR!
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D CARE TO WATCH RUFUS WHILE I'M AWAY.
REALLY?
TWICE A DAY YOU'D COME OVER AND FEED HIM...
...THEN TAKE HIM FOR A GOOD LONG WALK!
BUT MOST OF ALL, HE'LL NEED LOTS OF LOVE AND AFFECTION
SO HOW MUCH WOULD THE JOB BE WORTH TO YOU?
UMMMMMMM...
I CAN GIVE YA A QUARTER, A NICKEL AN' A RUSTY HARMONICA!
Ferdinand 11-16
www.dennisthemenace.com

## Salome's Stars

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Decisions involving your finances might seem to be foolproof. But they could have underlying risks you should know about. Don't act on anything until all the facts are in.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) You're attracted to a situation that appeals to your Bovine intellect. And that's good. But don't neglect your passionate side when romance comes calling later in the week.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) A recent development enhances that special relationship. Spending more time together also helps make the bonding process stronger. Expect news about a possible career change.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A suspicious situation should be dealt with before it leads to serious problems. Get all the facts needed to resolve it. Then refocus your energies on those tasks that need your attention.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Try to be more open-minded in working toward a resolution of that standoff between yourself and a colleague or family member. A little flexibility now could work to your advantage later.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) You might feel a bit threatened by a proposed workplace change. The best way to deal with it is to ask questions. You'll find that those involved will be happy to provide you with the facts.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Feeling alone in a crowd during the early part of the week is an unsettling emotion. But your spirits soon perk up, putting you into the right mood to start making holiday plans.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) A pesky problem should be dealt with immediately so you can put your time and effort into something more important. Someone from your past could have significant news for you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) High-energy aspects dominate, both on the job and at home. Use this time to put some long-range plans into operation. Things level off later in the week.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Even the usually gregarious Goat might feel overwhelmed by a flurry of activities. Be patient. Things soon return to your normal social routine.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Career choices that seem too confusing to deal with at this point probably are. More information would help uncomplicate them. On the personal side, a friend might need your advice.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Your Piscean imagination is stimulated by possibilities you see in a new opportunity. But keep those ideas to yourself until you feel ready to translate them into a workable format.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have an ingratiating way of helping people deal with their fears. Have you considered a career in social work or with the clergy?

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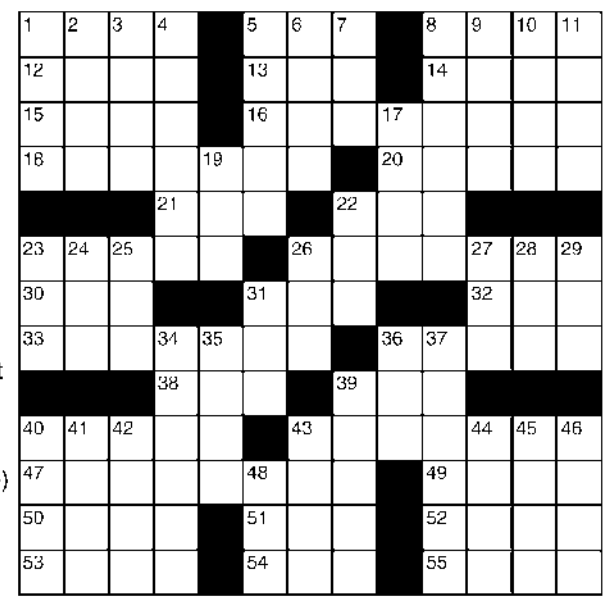
## King Crossword



**ACROSS**
1 Burn somewhat
5 Big bother
8 New Mexico art colony
12 Zero, at Wimbledon
13 Pinch
14 Desire
15 Andy's pal
16 Adams spy spoof
18 Sitcom set at a Vermont inn
20 Go down the - (deteriorate)
21 Wall climber
22 Fa follower
23 Seek out a J.P.
26 Breakfast pastry
30 Wager
31 Purchase
32 Midafternoon, on a sundial
33 Cameo, maybe
36 Sudden voltage increase
38 Genetic abbr.
39 Samovar
40 Valentino portrayal
43 Copyright-free illustrations
47 "USA Today" graph
49 Lotion additive
50 Not working
51 Apiece
52 Capri or Wight
53 "Untouchables" boss
54 Four p.m. affair
55 "... as handsome -"

**DOWN**
1 Family
2 Base runner's goal
3 Acknowledge
4 Forward, in a sense
5 Irate
6 Regimen
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37 Waiting for a check
39 Extreme
40 "Wheel of Fortune" option
41 Conceal
42 Slithery swimmers
43 Algonquian language
44 Additionally
45 Characterization
46 Links props
48 Suitable

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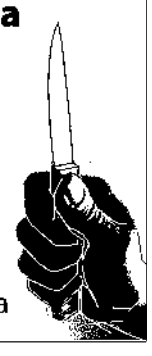
## top ten

### Most Murderous Countries*

1. **El Salvador**
2. **Jamaica**
3. **Guatemala**
4. **Honduras**
5. **Venezuela**
6. **South Africa**
7. **Colombia**
8. **Brazil**
9. **Russia**
10. **Ecuador**



*Homicides per capita
Source: Wikipedia

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**KING CROSSWORD LAST SUNDAY'S ANSWERS**

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# Nation

# It's Clinton or Richardson for state secretary

By NEDRA PICKLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President-elect Barack Obama has interviewed primary election rivals Hillary Rodham Clinton and Bill Richardson for secretary of state, according to Democratic officials who revealed his secret meetings with both as he weighed the decision on folding former foes into his new administration. Obama met with Richardson late Friday afternoon, a day after conferring one-on-one with Clinton at his Chicago office, said several Democratic officials.

He plans to meet there Monday with his Republican opponent, John McCain, but advisers to both of the general election rivals say they don't expect Obama to consider McCain for an administration job.

Clinton

Richardson

The meeting with Clinton, revealed to The Associated Press Friday, excited a burst of speculation that Obama would transform the former first lady and his fierce campaign foe into one of his top Cabinet officials and the nation's chief diplomatic voice. But where she stands in contention for the post came into question as other Democrats, also speaking on condition of anonymity about the private discussions, said Richardson was brought in as well.

The two are not the only candidates Obama has talked to about the job, Democrats said. One senior Obama adviser said the president-elect has given no evidence whom he is favoring for the post.

Obama asked Clinton directly whether she would be interested in the job, said one Democrat, who cautioned that it was no indication that he was leaning toward her.

Obama was deciding on his presidential staff as well, naming longtime friend Valerie Jarrett as a White House senior adviser. Jarrett met Obama when she hired his wife for a job in the Chicago mayor's office years ago and has been a close confidante to the couple ever since.

Obama was silent and out of sight in Chicago. On Friday evening, he attended a birthday party for Jarrett at a high-rise building in the city. Clinton, a New York senator, addressed a transit conference in her home state and said emphatically, "I'm not going to speculate or address anything about the president-elect's incoming administration, and I'm going to respect his process."

# Leaders move toward tougher financial rules

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—World leaders prepared Friday to adopt an early warning system for financial calamities, a commitment to tougher accounting rules and other modest steps to try to prevent future crises like the one now threatening the livelihoods of billions of people around the globe.

Nearly two dozen leaders assembled in Washington on Friday in the largest gathering of its kind here in nearly a decade. They dined in extravagance at the White House in a prelude to a day of closed-door negotiations Saturday over how best to wrestle both large and developing economies back from the brink of economic disaster.

The leaders were on track to approve measures to make the world financial system more accountable to investors and more transparent to regulators, diplomatic sources said. To do so, the leaders were expected to endorse more effective accounting rules governing how companies value their assets, a weakness seen as partly responsible for the current financial crisis.

**LIFTOFF** AP

Space shuttle Endeavour lifts off from pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center, Friday Nov. 14, 2008, in Cape Canaveral, Fla. The seven-member crew is on a mission to the International Space Station and the most extreme home makeover project ever attempted by astronauts. Commander Christopher Ferguson and his crew will double as kitchen and bathroom installers once they arrive at the space station Sunday, hooking up extra cooking and sleeping equipment so the station's crew can expand next year. They will deliver a new refrigerator as well, giving residents much-desired cold drinks for a change.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Police: Laid-off worker kills 3 in Northern Calif.

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—A laid-off worker returned to his former office in Northern California and opened fire Friday, killing three people before fleeing and leading police on an intensive search. Police say 47-year-old Jing Wu shot two men and a woman around 4 p.m. at an office complex in Santa Clara, just west of San Jose. Authorities would not release the name of the business, and the building houses a number of companies. The gunman remained at large Friday evening as dozens of officers searched for him. He drove off in a sport-utility vehicle, Lt. Mike Sellers said. Sellers described Wu as about 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighing 170 pounds. Investigators believe he fled the complex in a silver SUV, possibly a rented Mercury Mountaineer.

### Audit: Sharpton campaign owes US nearly $500,000

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Federal auditors have concluded the Rev. Al Sharpton's 2004 campaign owes the government nearly $500,000 for illegal donations and other financial improprieties. Sharpton has been feuding with the Federal Election Commission for years over his accounting in his failed run for president, for which he received $100,000 in so-called government matching funds that authorities later concluded he did not deserve because he hadn't followed campaign laws. The auditors have now determined that Sharpton owes $486,803 to the U.S. Treasury because of his campaign's taking improper donations, largely from the National Action Network, a not-for-profit corporation that Sharpton leads but is separate from his campaign committee. Sharpton will appeal the finding.

### Firefighters battling Calif. blaze at wind's mercy

**SANTA BARBARA, Calif.** (AP)—Firefighters were holding their own Friday against a wildfire that destroyed more than 100 homes in a wealthy, celebrity-studded enclave, but authorities warned that evening wind gusts could send the blaze on another destructive sprint. Much of the damage to homes and a small Christian college occurred Thursday night, but several more homes burned Friday in Montecito. More than 1,000 firefighters worked to contain the blaze ahead of winds that were expected to pick up after sundown. Franklin said up to 200 homes may have burned in the area.

### 3 Chicago teens drown during leadership retreat

**ALGONQUIN, Ill.** (AP)—Three high school students on a leadership camping retreat sneaked away from their camp beds in the middle of the night and drowned early Friday in paddle boats with floor plugs that had been removed for winter. The boats quickly sank, dumping the teens in the swift, 42-degree Fox River. A group of 31 boys from Chicago's North Lawndale College Prep were at Camp Algonquin about 40 miles northwest of the city on the last day of an eight-day trip. Chaperones were likely asleep when some of the young people launched six paddle boats into the river, fire officials said. It was not clear how many teens ended up in the water about 2 a.m., but at least one of the victims had gone in to help the others.

### Lucky man survives after being run over by train

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** (AP)—Talk about being lucky—a north Alabama man is alive after being run over by a train on Thursday afternoon. Huntsville Fire and Rescue officials said a train engineer spotted 61-year-old Arnold Romine lying across railroad ties. Witnesses said the conductor sounded the horn and tried to stop the train. Firefighters said by the time the coal train was stopped, 8 rail cars had passed over Romine's body. Miraculously, he suffered what appeared to be minor injuries. He was later treated and released at Huntsville Hospital. Its unclear why Romine was lying on the tracks.

# Asia

## Thais prepare for cremation of king's sis

**BANGKOK, Thailand** (AP)—To the wail of conch shells and the thunder of cannon fire, crimson-clad soldiers pulled a gilded chariot containing the body of the revered Thai king's sister to a seven-story pyre where she will be cremated Saturday.

Princess Galyani Vadhana, the elder sister of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, died of abdominal cancer 10 months ago at the age of 84.

More than 2,000 soldiers in dress uniform marched alongside the elaborate chariot containing the urn with the remains of the princess in a funeral procession from the glittering Grand Palace through the heart of old Bangkok, the capital.

Tens of thousands of Thais lined the route of the procession under clear skies to bid farewell to the late princess, while millions of others are expected to watch the procession on television.

Flanked by rows of drummers, trumpeters and conch-blowers, the slow-moving funeral train will end at the crematorium—a temporary complex of pavilions built by hundreds of Thai craftsmen over the past seven months. At the center is a four-sided castle, decorated with figures of heavenly beings at the base and a special seven-tiered white umbrella used only at royal events.

Members of the royal family will perform the cremation at the pyre Saturday as guards from the three armed forces fire cannons and a group of court musicians perform classical Thai music.

In Buddhist temples around the country, Thais will perform religious rites and burn sandalwood flowers in her honor.

The grand six-day funeral ceremony officially started Friday with saffron-robed Buddhist monks chanting prayers, launching a period of mourning that promises a temporary halt to the country's divisive political conflict.

The 80-year-old king led the royal family in Friday's ceremony at the Grand Palace, where more than 100 specially chosen monks were in attendance. The king lit candles and incense, as his wife Queen Sirikit and their children looked on.

The ceremony will provide a brief break from the protest-fueled political sparring that has gripped Thailand since anti-government protests began in May. In the worst political violence in the country in 16 years, two protesters were killed and more than 470 injured when anti-government protesters and riot police clashed on Oct. 7.

## China: Door open for Dalai Lama

**LONDON** (AP)—A senior Chinese official said in comments broadcast Friday that Beijing is open to further discussions with Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama following talks earlier this month.

Zhu Weiqun claimed in remarks to the BBC that "China has done everything it can to talk to the Dalai Lama." He added that "the door is still open."

Weiqun made the comments just days before a special meeting called by the Dalai Lama to discuss how the Tibetan exile communities and political organizations in Dharmsala, India, will deal with China in the future. The five day meeting begins Monday.

China insists Tibet is part of its territory. Since 2002, Tibetan representatives and Chinese officials have held several rounds of talks on the disputed territory with little apparent progress.

Earlier this week Zhu, a vice minister of the United Front Work Department, blamed the Dalai Lama and his envoys for the failure of talks held Oct. 31 to Nov. 5. In an apparent hardening of Beijing's stance, he said the Tibetan spiritual leader's calls for greater autonomy masked his desire for the Himalayan region's independence.

The Dalai Lama has said he is not seeking independence, but meaningful automony that would protect the region's unique Buddhist culture.

## Philippines labor secretary says no plans to lift ban on workers in Iraq

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—The Philippines has no immediate plan to lift a ban on its citizens working in Iraq, the labor secretary said Saturday after a plea from an Iraqi diplomat for more foreign laborers to help with the war-torn country's reconstruction.

Labor Secretary Marianito Roque said there would be no deployment of Filipino workers pending an assessment of the security situation in Iraq.

Roque said Iraqi officials asked the Philippines to lift the ban several weeks ago because of an expected construction boom.

"I told them, 'Wait a minute. We have to see if you can guarantee the security of our workers, before we consider allowing our workers to work in Iraq,'" he said during the weekly radio broadcast of Vice President Noli de Castro.

The Philippines' economy is largely dependent on its overseas workers. Some 8.7 million of the Philippines' 90 million people work abroad and last year they sent home a total of $14.45 billion—about 10 percent of the country's gross domestic product.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Abu Sayyaf release 2nd kidnapped aid worker

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—A senior Philippine military officer says al-Qaida-linked militants have freed the second of two aid workers they kidnapped in a southern province. Marines chief Maj. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino says social worker Millet Mendoza was released unharmed late Friday by Abu Sayyaf extremists in a remote village in southern Basilan province. He said Saturday he did not know if a ransom was paid. Militants seized Mendoza and Esperancita Hupida, program director for the Nagdilaab Foundation Inc., in September. Hupida was released last month after her family paid a 2 million peso ($40,000) ransom.

#### China faces new problem: Disposing of tainted milk

**BEIJING** (AP)—China faces a new problem with the tainted milk that has sickened babies and battered public confidence: How to get rid of the toxic stuff. It has been burned, buried and mixed into coal. One trash-hauling company dumped a load into a river, turning the waters a frothy white and raising fears about the safety of the drinking water. Tens of thousands of tons of milk laced with melamine, a chemical used in making fertilizer and plastics, have been pulled from shelves and warehouses since September, and local governments now face the huge—and costly—problem of safely disposing of it. Last month alone, more than 32,000 tons—enough to fill about 23 Olympic-sized pools—were disposed of in a single province, Hebei, according to the official Xinhua news agency.

#### Japanese, Afghan reporters hurt in Pakistan ambush

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan** (AP)—A gunman ambushed a Japanese reporter and an Afghan colleague Friday, wounding both men and their Pakistani driver in the latest attack on foreigners in Pakistan's volatile northwest region in three days. Security appears to be crumbling in Peshawar, a city of 2 million where an Iranian diplomat was kidnapped Thursday and an American aid worker was killed Wednesday. Motoki Yotsukura, Asahi Shimbun's bureau chief, was in a car with Sami Yousufzai, an Afghan who has worked for Western publications including Newsweek, when the assailant opened fire, police said.

# World

AP

**STUDENT PROTEST**

Students gather in front of Rome's Montecitorio house of Parliament palace Rome, Friday Nov. 14, 2008. Thousands of students marched through Rome to protest proposed changes to the education system backed by Premier Silvio Berlusconi's government. The students say such changes, including funding cuts, would damage education, while the government says they would target waste and corruption in the university system.

## Russian lawmakers support extending presidential term

**MOSCOW** (AP)—Russian lawmakers moved to lengthen the presidential term from four to six years on Friday with a vote that opponents called a step toward Vladimir Putin's return to power.

The change means that the powerful prime minister could serve a total of 20 years as president if he returns to the position as many expect.

The office of Russian president "already has more power than the General Secretary (of the U.S.S.R.), the czar and the pharaoh together," Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov complained shortly before the State Duma voted 388-58 to approve the constitutional amendment. It faces two more votes in the Duma, or lower house of parliament, and appears certain to be enacted. The Communists were the only Duma faction to vote against it.

Political analysts and Kremlin foes predict that President Dmitry Medvedev could step down as early as next year, making his former patron acting president and triggering elections in which Putin would run and likely win.

## Two dead, Colombia cities under curfew in pyramid scam collapse

**BOGOTA,Colombia**(AP)—A collapsed pyramid scheme that cost millions and sent swindled investors rioting in the streets continued to plague southwestern Colombia late Friday, with two people dead, 13 towns under police curfew and the country's top banking regulator resigning.

A total of 600 million pesos ($270 million) is believed to have been lost by the investment company "Dinero Rapido Facil Efectivo," or "Easy Money Fast Cash" in English, police said.

The collapse so far has affected hundreds of investors in small towns and rural areas.

The company offered profits of 70 percent to 150 percent a month, Narino state Gov. Antonio Navarro said in an interview with Caracol radio.

The yearlong scheme was allowed to flourish because of "naiveté, greed and banking regulators' failure to act," said Navarro, whose state was home to the company headquarters.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Chavez: Venezuela, Russia working on nuclear power

**CARACAS, Venezuela** (AP)—President Hugo Chavez says Venezuela is already working with Russia to develop nuclear power for peaceful purposes. Chavez says Venezuelan and Russian technical teams have begun working in preparation for Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's visit later this month. Venezuela would use nuclear energy to fuel the health and electricity sectors, he said Friday. Venezuela has strengthened ties with Russia under Chavez, purchasing more than $4 billion in Russian weapons since 2005. Medvedev's arrival on Nov. 26 will mark the first time a Russian president has visited Venezuela.

#### Magnitude 5.2 quake shakes New Zealand

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (AP) —A magnitude 5.2 earthquake has rocked the resort town of Rotorua on New Zealand's North Island. There have been no reports of injuries or damage. Geological agency GNS Science says in a statement the quake occurred early Saturday and was centered 6 miles (10 kilometers) south of the township in an active volcanic area. The agency says the quake occurred at a depth of 100 miles (160 kilometers) and was felt 220 miles (350 kilometers) to the south in the capital, Wellington.

#### Virtual affair leads to real divorce for UK couple

**LONDON** (AP)—A virtual affair is ending a real-life marriage in southwest England. Amy Taylor filed for divorce when she discovered her husband cheating in Second Life - an online community where players adopt personas called avatars, mingle with others and teleport themselves into a series of artificial worlds. "I caught him cuddling a woman on a sofa in the game," Taylor told the South West News Service press agency. "It looked really affectionate. He confessed he'd been talking to this woman player in America for one or two weeks, and said our marriage was over and he didn't love me any more." The online drama shows how emotionally invested some people have become in their virtual identities, said Ellen Helsper, a researcher at the Oxford Internet Institute who has studied the impact of the Web on relationships.

# Focus

# Witnessing history after a long career at the White House

By WIL HAYGOOD
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

THE WASHINGTON POST

Eugene Allen, 88, a retired White House butler, has served eight presidents. Of the idea that a black man would become president, he said: "It'd be really something."

**WASHINGTON**—For more than three decades Eugene Allen worked in the White House, a black man unknown to the headlines. During some of those years, harsh segregation laws lay upon the land.

He trekked home every night, his wife, Helene, keeping him out of *her* kitchen.

At the White House, he worked closer to the dirty dishes than the large desk in the Oval Office. Helene didn't care; she just beamed with pride.

President Truman called him Gene.

President Ford liked to talk golf with him.

He saw eight presidential administrations come and go, often working six days a week. "I never missed a day of work," Allen says.

His is a story from the back pages of history. A figure in the tiniest of print. The man in the kitchen.

He was there while America's racial history was being remade: Brown v. Board of Education, the Little Rock school crisis, the 1963 March on Washington, the cities burning, the civil rights bills, the assassinations.

When he started at the White House in 1952, he couldn't even use the public restrooms when he ventured back to his native Virginia. "We had never had anything," Allen, 89, recalls of black America at the time. "I was always hoping things would get better."

In its long history, the White House—just note the name—has had a complex and vexing relationship with black Americans.

"The history is not so uneven at the lower level, in the kitchen," says Ted Sorensen, who served as counselor to President Kennedy. "In the kitchen, the folks have always been black. Even the folks at the door—black."

Sorensen tried to address the matter of blacks in the White House. But in the end, there was only one black man who stayed on the executive staff at the Kennedy White House past the first year. "There just weren't as many blacks as there should have been," says Sorensen. "Sensitivities weren't what they should have been, or could have been."

## A Closed Door

In 1866 the abolitionist Frederick Douglass, sensing an opening to advocate for black voting rights, made a White House visit to lobby President Andrew Johnson. Johnson refused to engage in a struggle for black voting rights. Douglass was back at the White House in 1877. But no one wished to discuss his political sentiments: President Rutherford Hayes had engaged the great man—it was a time of high minstrelsy across the nation—to serve as a master of ceremonies for an evening of entertainment.

In the fall of 1901, another famous black American came to the door. President Theodore Roosevelt invited Booker T. Washington, head of the Tuskegee Institute, to meet with him at the White House. Roosevelt was careful not to announce the invitation, fearing a backlash, especially from Southerners. But news of the visit leaked quickly enough and the uproar was swift and noisy. In an editorial, the Memphis Scimitar would write in the ugly language of the times: "It is only recently that President Roosevelt boasted that his mother was a Southern woman, and that he is half Southern by reason of that fact. By inviting a nigger to his table he pays his mother small duty."

Fifty years later, invitations to the White House were still fraught with racial subtext. When the Daughters of the American Revolution refused to allow pianist Hazel Scott to perform at Constitution Hall because of her race, many letters poured into the White House decrying the DAR's position. First lady Bess Truman was a member of the organization, but she made no effort to get the DAR to alter its policy. Scott's husband, Harlem congressman Adam Clayton Powell, subsequently referred to Bess Truman as "the last lady of the land." The words outraged President Truman, who vowed to aides he would find some way to punish Powell and barred the fellow Democrat from setting foot inside the Truman White House.

The first black to hold a policy or political position in the White House was E. Frederick Morrow, a former public relations executive with CBS. Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's presidential campaign operatives were so impressed with Morrow's diligent work during the 1952 campaign that they promised him a White House executive job if Ike were elected. Ike won, but Morrow ended up being placed at the Department of Commerce. He felt slighted and appealed to Republican friends in New York to force the White House to make good on its promise.

THE WASHINGTON POST

Eugene Allen with the Reagans.

The phone finally rang in 1955 and Morrow was named administrative officer for special projects. He had hoped the title would give him wide responsibilities inside the White House, but found himself dealing, for the most part, with issues related to the Brown desegregation ruling, the Rosa Parks-led bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala., and the 1957 Little Rock school crisis.

"He was a man of great dignity," says Stephen Hess, senior fellow emeritus at the Brookings Institution, who worked as a speechwriter for Eisenhower. Morrow was in a lonely position, but "he did not complain," says Hess. "That's wasn't Fred Morrow."

When Morrow left his White House position, he imagined there'd be corporate job offers. There were not. "Only thing he was offered were jobs related to the black community," says Hess. Nonetheless, "after Morrow, it was appropriate to have a black person on the staff of the White House."

## 'Pantry Man'

Before he landed his job at the White House, Gene Allen worked as a waiter at the Homestead resort in Hot Springs, Va., and then at a country club in Washington.

He and wife Helene, 86, are sitting in the living room of their home off Georgia Avenue NW. A cane rests across her lap. Her voice is musical, in a Lena Horne kind of way. She calls him "Honey." They met in Washington at a birthday party in 1942. He was too shy to ask for her number, so she tracked his down. They married a year later.

In 1952, a lady told him of a job opening in the White House. "I wasn't even looking for a job," he says. "I was happy where I was working, but she told me to go on over there and meet with a guy by the name of Alonzo Fields."

Fields was a maitre d', and he immediately liked Allen.

Allen was offered a job as a "pantry man." He washed dishes, stocked cabinets and shined silverware. He started at $2,400 a year.

There was, in time, a promotion to butler. "Shook the hand of all the presidents I ever worked for," he says.

"I was there, honey," Helene reminds. "In the back maybe. But I shook their hands, too." She's referring to White House holiday parties, Easter Egg hunts. They have one son, Charles. He works as an investigator with the State Department.

"President Ford's birthday and my birthday were on the same day," he says. "He'd have a birthday party at the White House. Everybody would be there. And Mrs. Ford would say, `It's Gene's birthday, too!' "

And so they'd sing a little ditty to the butler. And the butler, who wore a tuxedo to work every day, would blush.

"Jack Kennedy was very nice," he goes on. "And so was Mrs. Kennedy."

"Hmm-mmm," she says, rocking.

He was in the White House kitchen the day JFK was slain. He got a personal invitation to the funeral. But he volunteered for other duty: "Somebody had to be at the White House to serve everyone after they came from the funeral."

The whole family of President Jimmy Carter made her chuckle: "They were country. And I'm talking Lillian and Rosalynn both." It comes out sounding like the highest compliment.

First lady Nancy Reagan came looking for him in the kitchen one day. She wanted to remind him about the upcoming state dinner for German Chancellor Helmut Kohl. He told her he was well ahead in the planning and had already picked out the china. But she told him he would not be working that night.

"She said, `You and Helene are coming to the state dinner as guests of President Reagan and myself.' I'm telling you! I believe I'm the only butler to get invited to a state dinner."

Husbands and wives don't sit together at these events, and Helene was nervous about trying to make small talk with world leaders. "And my son says, `Momma, just talk about your high school. They won't know the difference.'

"The senators were all talking about the colleges and universities that they went to," she says." I was doing as much talking as they were.

"Had champagne that night," she says, looking over at her husband.

He just grins: He was the man who stacked the champagne at the White House.

## Moving Up, but Slowly

President Kennedy, who succeeded Eisenhower, started with two blacks, Frank Reeves and Andrew Hatcher, in executive positions on his White House staff. Only Hatcher, a deputy press secretary, remained after

# Life & Style

## Winfrey, Lowe commiserate as paradise burns

By LYNN ELBER
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Montecito is home to the rich and famous, but it's not flashy. It's exclusive, but not haughty. And it's far enough from the sprawl of Los Angeles for comfort—while still close enough for convenience.

People who live in this enclave tucked between the Pacific Ocean and the mountains call it a paradise, one that has long drawn old money and, in recent years, flush celebrities.

Among them are Oprah Winfrey and Rob Lowe, Montecito neighbors who commiserated by phone Friday during the taping of "The Oprah Winfrey Show." While the homes of each had apparently escaped damage as of Friday evening, they talked at length about their friends and neighbors who weren't so lucky.

"It started last night and so far it's been reported that as many as 100 homes have been destroyed," Winfrey said. "A lot of them are friends and neighbors of mine so it's not a good morning for us. ... Some of my friends left their homes with only their dogs last night as I was calling, 'Are you all right? Are you all right?' They said, 'We have the dogs and the kids aren't here so we're OK.'"

At least part of Christopher Lloyd's property was damaged in the fire, the Los Angeles Times reported on its real estate blog. It said a Times reporter witnessed much of the "Back to the Future" actor's eight-acre grounds in ruins, and that he was filming on location in Vancouver but a caretaker had fled the property. Lloyd's agent had no comment Friday when contacted by The Associated Press, and messages left with his manager were not returned.

AP
Actor Rob Lowe poses on the press line at the Hollywood Legacy Awards in Los Angeles on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008.

Winfrey was at a safe distance in Chicago, but Lowe recounted a harrowing experience from the night before as the flames rushed around his home. He said he and his son were watching football when his wife, who was out running errands, alerted him to the approaching blaze with just minutes to spare.

"I'm very lucky," he said. "My house is fine. ... and I believe both of my friends' houses survived."

Residents extolled Montecito's charms Friday, even as the Santa Barbara County community surrendered a swath of its multimillion-dollar homes to a brutal wildfire.

"It's very expensive, very dramatic. It's like the coast of Monte Carlo," with a perfect Mediterranean climate, said longtime real estate agent Bill Vaughan, who pegged the median value of homes—despite the ongoing slump in housing prices—at $2 million.

Lush stands of oak and eucalyptus trees give a wooded accent to Montecito, Vaughan noted, as well as increase the fire danger. About 10,000 people live in the community, he said.

Families from the East Coast with industrial fortunes long ago discovered the area's allure, to be joined later by stars who found a pocket of luxury and seclusion not far from the Los Angeles-based entertainment industry.

Jeff Bridges, Ellen DeGeneres, John Cleese and Michael Douglas are among those who live in the area or once owned homes there. Heather Locklear was driving in the area in September when she was pulled over for driving erratically and arrested. And Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and wife Maria Shriver have purchased a 25-acre tract for $4.7 million.

"If I were an autograph hound I'd have a nice thick book," said Debbie Ousey, owner of Tom's Montecito Coffee Shop. But when Lowe or comedian Jonathan Winters or other famous folk stop in, they can be sure they won't be pestered by fans, she said.

Montecito also has a sense of camaraderie and community spirit that belies its wealthy profile, she said.

"It's really pretty special. ... It's not snobby, wealthy people," Ousey said, adding that the town includes longtime residents who don't have big bank accounts or lavish homes. "Everybody supports everybody."

And that would seem to include the rich and famous. Lowe said among the evacuating neighbors he saw was filmmaker Ivan Reitman, director of "Stripes" and "Ghostbusters," and a neighbor with whom he and Winfrey are mutual friends.

"The next door neighbor's house, they were trapped behind their gates and could not get out," Lowe said.

"The next door neighbors the Simmons? You mean the Simmons?," Winfrey asked.

"The Simmons could not get out of their gate. Their daughter was lost on the property and so I had another gentleman and I pried the gates open. ... We tried to comfort the Simmons, and embers were raining down. They were in our hair, they were in our shirts. The wind was easily 70 miles an hour and it was absolutely Armageddon."

Winfrey said had she been at her sprawling estate, she already knew what her priority would've been.

"We already had a plan for getting the dogs out and going to the Four Seasons in West Lake, because they take dogs," she said. "So that would have been the first thing I would have done, look for my dogs."

## WITNESSING

*From Page 19*

six months. Reeves, who focused on civil rights matters, left in a political reshuffling.

The issue of race bedeviled this White House, even amid good intentions. In 1963, Kennedy invited 800 blacks to the White House to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Louis Martin, a Democratic operative who helped plan the function, had placed the names of entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. and his wife, May Britt, on the guest list. The White House scratched it off and Martin would put it back on. According to Martin, Kennedy was aghast when he saw the black and white couple stroll into the White House. His face reddened and he instructed photographers that no pictures of the interracial couple would be taken.

But Sammy Davis Jr. was not finished with the 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. He got himself invited to the Nixon White House to meet with the president and talk about Vietnam and business opportunities for blacks. He even slept in the Lincoln Bedroom once. When Davis sang at the 1972 Republican convention in Miami, he famously wrapped his arms around Nixon at a youth rally there, becoming forever identified with a White House that many blacks found hostile.

Lyndon Johnson devoted considerable energy and determination to civil rights legislation, even appointing the first black to the Supreme Court. But it did not translate to any appreciable number of blacks working on his staff. Clifford Alexander says he was the sole black in Johnson's White House, serving first as a National Security Council officer then as associate White House counsel.

"We were fighting for something quite new," says Alexander. "You knew how much your job meant. And you knew President Johnson was fighting on your behalf." As a young man growing up in Harlem, Alexander had heard about Morrow. Mothers and fathers pointed to him as a grand success story. "Fred was a lovely man," says Alexander. "But they did not pay any attention to him in the Eisenhower White House."

Colin Powell would become the highest ranking black of any White House to that point when he was named President Reagan's national security adviser in 1987. Condoleezza Rice would have that same position under President George W. Bush.

The butler remembers seeing both Powell and Rice in the Oval Office. He was serving refreshments. He couldn't help notice that blacks were moving closer to the center of power, closer than he could ever have dreamed. He'd tell Helene how proud it made him feel.

### Time for Change

Gene Allen was promoted to maitre d' in 1980. He left the White House in 1986, after 34 years. President Reagan wrote him a sweet note. Nancy Reagan hugged him, tight.

Interviewed at their home last week, Gene and Helene speculated about what it would mean if a black man were actually elected president.

"Just imagine," she said.

"It'd be really something," he said.

"We're pretty much past the going-out stage," she said. "But you never know. If he gets in there, it'd sure be nice to go over there again."

They've got pictures of President and Mrs. Reagan in the living room. He's got pictures of every president Gene's ever served on a wall in the basement. There's a painting President Eisenhower gave him and a picture of President Ford opening birthday gifts, Gene hovering nearby.

They talked about praying to help Barack Obama get to the White House. They'd go vote together. She'd lean on her cane with one hand, and him with the other while walking down to the precinct. And she'd get supper going afterward. They'd gone over their election day plans more than once.

"Imagine," she said.

"That's right," he said.

On Monday Helene had a doctor's appointment. Gene woke and nudged her once, then again. He shuffled around to her side of the bed. He nudged Helene again. He was all alone.

"I woke up and my wife didn't," he said later.

Some friends and family members rushed over. He wanted to make coffee. They had to shoo the butler out of the kitchen.

The lady whom he married 65 years ago will be buried Friday.

The butler cast his vote for Obama on Tuesday. He so missed telling his Helene about the black man bound for the Oval Office.

THE WASHINGTON POST
Helene Allen with her husband, Eugene. The couple prayed for the election of Barack Obama but Helene Allen died Nov. 3, one day before the election.

## BEST SELLERS

(c) 2008 Los Angeles Times

### Nonfiction

1 ***The Snowball***, by Alice Schroeder (Bantam: $35) The life and times of investor Warren Buffett, the Oracle of Omaha.

2 ***Dewey***, by Vicki Myron with Bret Witter (Grand Central: $19.99) The effect a cat named Dewey, who had been left in the after-hours book-return slot, had on an Iowa library and its patrons.

3 ***The Last Lecture***, by Randy Pausch with Jeffrey Zaslow (Random House: $21.95) A professor's terminal cancer inspires a call to seize life's moments.

4 ***Hot, Flat, and Crowded***, by Thomas L. Friedman (Farrar, Straus & Giroux: $27.95) This provocative book offers solutions to overpopulation and the global-warming crisis.

5 ***Goodnight Bush***, by Erich Origen and Gan Golan (Little, Brown: $14.99) A parody of the children's classic Goodnight Moon.

6 ***A Bold Fresh Piece of Humanity***, by Bill O'Reilly (Broadway: $26) The Fox News commentator explores his childhood and the effect it had on his life.

7 ***Here's the Story***, by Maureen McCormick (William Morrow: $25.95) The Brady Bunch star shares her memoirs.

8 ***My Stroke of Insight***, by Jill Bolte Taylor (Penguin: $24.95) A brain scientist shares her journey of recovery and insight from loss of brain function.

9 ***Don't Mind If I Do***, by George Hamilton (Touchstone: $26) The man with the perennial tan reflects on his Hollywood life in this tell-all.

10 ***The 4-Hour Workweek***, by Timothy Ferriss (Crown: $19.95) A blueprint for living life on your own terms.

### Fiction

1 ***The Brass Verdict***, by Michael Connelly (Little, Brown: $26.99) A luckless attorney defends a studio executive accused of offing his wife and her lover.

2 ***A Most Wanted Man***, by John le Carre (Scribner: $28) Turkish Muslims in Germany take in a homeless man who turns out to be a terrorist.

3 ***The Story of Edgar Sawtelle***, by David Wroblewski (Ecco: $25.95) A mute dog breeder is banished by his uncle a la Hamlet.

4 ***Breaking Dawn***, by Stephenie Meyer (Little, Brown: $22.99) The final book in the Twilight saga finds Bella choosing immortality.

5 ***Eclipse***, by Stephenie Meyer (Little, Brown: $19.99) Bella must choose between her lover and a friend, life and death.

6 ***Extreme Measures***, by Vince Flynn (Atria: $27.95) CIA operative Mitch Rapp attempts to foil a terrorist plot on American soil while in Afghanistan.

7 ***Gate House***, by Nelson DeMille (Grand Central: $27.99) A man and his ex-wife attempt to reconcile years after her affair with a mob boss.

8 ***A Lion Among Men***, by Gregory Maguire (William Morrow: $26.95) In the third part of the Wicked Years, it's the Cowardly Lion's turn to shine.

9 ***Brisingr***, by Christopher Paolini (Knopf: $27.50) Eragon, along with his dragon Saphira, must unite the rebel forces to defeat King Galbatorix.

10 ***The Lucky One***, by Nicholas Sparks (Grand Central: $24.99) A former Marine searches for an unknown woman in a photograph.

# Charles turns 60, still waiting to become king

By GREGORY KATZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**LONDON** (AP)—Talk about an apprentice. By the time he turned 60 last Friday, Prince Charles has already spent a lifetime in line to become king.

That's put him in quite a bind. The longest-waiting heir in British history only ascends to the throne when his beloved mother dies or decides to step down.

Queen Elizabeth II hosted a birthday party for her son Thursday at Buckingham Palace. The Philharmonic Orchestra, of which the prince is patron, played for invited members of his extended family, European royalty and assorted society figures.

His sons William and Harry addressed the guests, describing Charles as an inspiration—but also poked fun at their aging father, joking that an electric stair lift would be installed at his country home in Gloucestershire, in southwest England, to mark his birthday.

Charles' wife Camilla was throwing a more private bash on Saturday at the prince's rural estate, complete with a performance by sexagenarian rocker Rod Stewart.

But the queen won't be giving Charles the present many believe he craves most—the crown. The queen has indicated informally that she plans to keep the job for life and some people think the 82-year-old monarch intends to live forever, or at least as long as her mother, who died at 101.

"It can't be easy," said historian Andrew Roberts. "Most of us can look forward to our new jobs, but the circumstances under which her reign comes to an end means that he can't, emotionally and psychologically."

If the queen remains in good health, Charles may be nearing 80—or past it—when he fulfills the unique destiny that was his at birth.

Britain's next-longest monarch-in-waiting was Queen Victoria's eldest son, who became King Edward VII in 1901, aged just over 59 years and two months.

But shed no tears for old Charles and his predicament. He has made being Prince of Wales a pretty good thing.

Experts, associates and friends say he realized decades ago that he would make his mark as Prince of Wales rather than as an octogenarian king, and so decided to expand that undefined role and use it to pursue causes dear to his heart.

Roberts said Charles has transformed the traditionally weak role of Prince of Wales—which the historian compared to the vice-presidency of the United States—by using it as a bully pulpit.

"He's made a real job of it," Roberts said. "He's spoken out on what matters most to him, championing organic food over genetically modified crops, backing architecture that is human in scale, pursuing better relations between the Islamic world and other faiths, and starting the Prince's Trust, which has helped many young people in trouble."

The princely role offers a few advantages over being monarch. Some say the money is better, because the Prince of Wales controls the lucrative Duchy of Cornwall, the 55,000-hectare (136,000-acre) estate established in 1337 by King Edward II to provide income for his heir. Official accounts show the prince's property and investments brought in 16 million pounds (US$24 million) last year.

And a prince is much more able to speak his mind than a king or queen because of constitutional restraints placed on the person heading the House of Windsor.

Patrick Jephson, former private secretary to Princess Diana, said Charles' income from the Duchy of Cornwall allows him to spend a "colossal" amount of money building his empire and pursuing his interests and causes.

"In effect, he is king now in his own kingdom," said Jephson. "He has all the trappings and enjoys all the perks and one might argue none of the responsibility. This takes some of the sting out of having to wait. You can say it's awful because your promotion depends on your mother's death, but we've all had parents die and not benefited so spectacularly from it."

Jephson finds Charles arrogant in many ways. But he has some sympathy for the aging prince.

"He is trapped between an immovable object, his mother, and the ever rising profile of his photogenic and sexy children," Jephson said. "That's all the more reason to feather your nest while you can and enjoy being master of all you survey."

There is no doubt that Charles is less popular than the queen, who commands wide respect throughout Britain for her unswerving devotion to duty for more than half a century. She became queen on the death of her father George VI in 1952. Charles, the eldest of her four children, was not yet 4 years old.

Charles' many detractors see him as a slightly potty eccentric who talks to his plants and is so committed to environmental causes that he converted his vintage Aston Martin to run on surplus wine.

Some still fault him for the spectacular flameout of his marriage to Princess Diana and his not-too-carefully-concealed extramarital affair with Camilla Parker Bowles, now his second wife.

His image has been hurt by unauthorized leaks about his gilded lifestyle, including reports that one of his aides squeezes his toothpaste onto his toothbrush for him.

This negative view has led a boomlet of support for the idea that Charles should forgo the chance to become king at an elderly age and instead pass the crown to Prince William, his dashing eldest son.

But that idea will never fly, said Vernon Bogdanor, a professor of government at Oxford University who has written extensively about constitutional matters.

"That's not possible without legislation in Britain and 15 other Commonwealth monarchies," he said. "The monarchy is not seen as something you can choose to accept or not."

Bogdanor concedes that Charles' reputation was at a low point after his disastrous divorce from Diana, and polls show he remains less popular than the queen. The Daily Mirror newspaper summed up many Britons' feelings Thursday in an editorial. "Happy birthday, Charles," it said, "but long may the queen reign over us."

But Bogdanor said the public view of the prince has improved since then. Charles has lectured around the world on the environment, championed interfaith dialogue and channeled millions to good causes through his Prince's Trust charity, which helps young people get education, work and training.

"He's the first heir to the throne to find a role for himself," Bogdanor said.

"He's connected with outsiders the politicians sometimes ignore. I think now people appreciate what he's done. He could have sat back and done nothing."

AP

In this image made available in London, Thursday Nov. 13, 2008, Britain's Prince Charles poses for a portrait to mark his 60th birthday, which he celebrated on Friday Nov. 14.

# Hudson thanks fans for support; featured in new ad

In this image released by The Gap, actress and singer Jennifer Hudson wears a red sweater in an ad campaign for the Gap.

AP

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The Gap considered removing smiling portraits of Jennifer Hudson from its new holiday ads after her recent tragedy, but decided to keep the images after the grieving star said she wanted to go ahead with the campaign, a representative for the clothing chain said Friday.

"We felt that it was really important first and foremost to respect what she wanted to do, so as long as she felt comfortable with her campaign being out there, we felt comfortable," said Olivia Doyne, director of engagement marketing and public relations for Gap.

The company's new print, store and billboard ads were unveiled Thursday. Several celebrities are featured, including Mary-Louise Parker, Jason Bateman, Rainn Wilson, Ashanti and Seth Myers.

Hudson's photos were taken in July in advance of what was expected to be a busy winter season for Hudson, who released her self-titled debut CD and was featured in the film "The Secret Life of Bees" in October.

However, on Oct. 24, the bodies of her 57-year-old mother, Darnell Donerson, and her brother, 29-year-old Jason Hudson, were found in the family's Chicago home. The body of her 7-year-old nephew Julian King - the son of Hudson's sister Julia - was discovered three days later in a car on Chicago's West Side.

William Balfour, the estranged husband of her sister Julia Hudson, has been questioned in connection with the killings. He has been held on a parole violation, but has not been charged.

After the tragedy unfolded, the Gap considered pulling Hudson from the ad out of deference to the entertainer.

"The minute we heard about the tragedy, we actually contacted her management team to ask if she wanted to participate or if she wanted us to pull her out of it," said Doyne. "They checked in with her and said that she still wanted to participate. It was definitely our first thought."

Doyne said Gap Inc. wasn't concerned that Hudson's presence in the ads would register sadness instead of holiday cheer.

"Her pictures are absolutely gorgeous. She just looks incredible and she's got such this big, beautiful personality and I think (it) came through on the photos really well," said Doyne. "So I really hope that despite all the heartbreak that's been happening, she'll still bring a smile to people's faces."

Meanwhile, Hudson, in her first statement since burying her mother, brother and nephew last week, thanked her fans for their encouragement.

"I want to thank each and every one of you for your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time," the 27-year-old Oscar-winning actress and singer said in a posting on her MySpace page Thursday evening. "My sister and I take great comfort and strength from your love and concern."

AP

In this Sept. 14, 2008, file photo, Joe Jonas from The Jonas Brothers, arrives at Disney's Concert For Hope in Los Angeles.

# Joe Jonas says he's no cad; Taylor 'moves on'

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Joe Jonas is tired of hearing about how he's a bad boyfriend—and now he's trying to defend himself.

The 19-year-old—part of dreamy teen band the Jonas Brothers with his two siblings—has gotten an avalanche of negative publicity after former girlfriend and fellow multiplatinum singer Taylor Swift dished about their recent breakup, which she says came in a 27-second phone call. She also was quoted as saying that he dumped her after meeting actress Camilla Belle.

The revelations have been hot topics on the blogs and have muddied his reputation as a clean-cut, upstanding heartthrob.

So, in a posting on the MySpace.com celebrity blog page Thursday, the singer sought to give his side of the split, though he didn't mention the 18-year-old country star by name. (It had also been posted to the Jonas Brothers' own MySpace page but had been removed by Friday afternoon.)

"I never cheated on a girlfriend. It might make someone feel better to assume or imply I have been unfaithful but it is simply not true," he said. "Maybe there were reasons for a breakup. Maybe the heart moved on. Perhaps feelings changed. I am truly saddened that anything would potentially cause you to think less of me."

As for the quick phone call, he said: "I called to discuss feelings with the other person. Those feelings were obviously not well received. I did not end the conversation. Someone else did. Phone calls can only last as long as the person on the other end of the line is willing to talk. A phone call can be pretty short when someone else ends the call. The only difference in this conversation was that I shared something the other person did not want to hear. "

Jonas said he has tried to call Swift since then and gotten no response.

He said he wishes the best for "the other person but could not sit back any longer and leave our fans with a wrong impression of the truth. Hope this helps enlighten a little."

Swift has said Jonas inspired at least one heartbreak song on her new CD, "Fearless," and in a recent interview with The Associated Press, she said: "If you don't want me to write about the things that you do, then don't do bad things for me to write about!"

But in response to Jonas' online posting, her publicist, Paula Erickson, simply said Friday night: "Taylor has moved on."

# Smithsonian snags items to recreate Obama office

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Curators at the Smithsonian Institution wasted no time snapping up souvenirs from President-elect Barack Obama's historic campaign victory and revealed plans Wednesday to recreate one of the campaign's Virginia field offices in a future exhibit.

The National Museum of African American History and Culture, slated to open in 2015 on the National Mall, scooped up items that had been headed for the trash can - such as election maps, strategy boards, campaign literature and even a Lazy Boy chair from Obama's campaign office in Falls Church, Va. - shortly after the election.

A 21-year-old undergraduate from George Washington University ran the office, which focused on reaching a culturally and ethnically diverse range of voters to help elect the first black president. Many of their campaign signs read "Koreans for Obama" and "Latinos for Obama."

"In this very uplifting way, it seemed to be a reflection of the spectrum of people who make up the larger American community," said Jacquelyn Serwer, the museum's chief curator. "We want people, whether you're African American or not, to see yourself in the stories we're telling."

Curators on Wednesday thanked Obama's Virginia staff for saving the items. Virginia was a key swing state for Obama's win. He was the first Democratic presidential candidate to win there since 1964.

The museum is acquiring as many as 100 items from the campaign office, though some will remain in an Obama volunteer's garage until the Smithsonian can find a place to store them.

The museum also is working to acquire objects from a campaign office in Colorado, to show the differing appeals from Virginia to the Rocky Mountains, and may pursue items from Obama's campaign headquarters in Chicago, Serwer said.

AP

Ari Schoenholtz volunteers at the Obama campaign office in Falls Church, Va. on Friday Oct. 31, 2008. The National Museum of African American History and Culture, slated to open in 2015 on the National Mall, is collecting items from the Obama campaign—including items from the campaign office in Falls Church—for a future exhibit.

Most of the Virginia campaign loot would have ended up in the trash or been taken as souvenirs, volunteers said. The items may not be priceless artifacts, but they are "proof that we participated in one of the most historically significant elections in American history," said museum director Lonnie Bunch.

Campaign volunteer Edward Gerwin Jr., who served as office manager at the Falls Church field office, said any sensitive campaign information was shredded, but they gave Smithsonian curators furniture, campaign materials printed in multiple languages and even the white boards that hung on the walls for volunteers to organize and chart their strategy.

"It was hilarious because one day we were getting ready to toss all this stuff out, and the next day they were telling us what steps to take to preserve the writing on these white boards ... Suddenly they've become historical artifacts," said Gerwin, a retired lawyer. "We were obviously very honored."

Kyle Lierman, the 21-year-old field organizer who ran the office, said he plans to return to school in January to finish his degree in business but couldn't discuss the campaign gifts to the museum because he's still on the Obama payroll. In a statement released by the Smithsonian, though, Lierman said he was happy his moment in history would be preserved.

"I live in D.C.," he said, "and to think that I am going to be able to go to the museum in 30 years and visit my old office is cool."

# NY busboy sues Timberlake resto

AP

Singer Justin Timberlake arrives at the Keep a Child Alive annual Black Ball benefit event, Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008, in New York.

**NEW YORK (**AP)—A busboy is suing Justin Timberlake, saying the pop star's Manhattan barbecue joint didn't pay him a legal wage.

Felipe Ramales, 26, said in a federal lawsuit filed Friday that he worked for Timberlake's Southern Comfort restaurant for about a year before he left in June.

The suit said Ramales and other staffers didn't get their proper share of a gratuity charge that the Upper East Side restaurant automatically collected from parties with six or more diners. Ramales, of the Bronx, also said he worked more than 40 hours per week without getting overtime.

A manager at the restaurant, Chris Russell, called the lawsuit baseless. He said staff members received every dime of their tips, and busboys were paid well over the legal minimum wage.

Publicists for Timberlake did not immediately respond to e-mail messages Friday night. The lawsuit also names two other partners in the restaurant; Russell said he couldn't immediately provide phone numbers for them.

Lawsuits alleging similar labor law violations have been filed against several other New York City restaurants in recent years.

Timberlake, 27, became a star as part of the boy band 'N Sync and has since become a best-selling solo artist. He also has appeared in the films "Alpha Dog" and "Black Snake Moan" and voiced a character in "Shrek the Third."

# Reports: Kanye West arrested in England

**LONDON** (AP)—Rapper Kanye West was arrested after a fracas outside a nightclub but released without charge, British media reported Friday.

The Press Association news agency and others reported that that the 31-year-old rapper was detained early Friday after an incident involving a photographer outside the Tup Tup Palace bar in Newcastle, northern England.

Police said only that a 31-year-old man had been arrested on suspicion of assault after an incident at a nightclub. They said he was later released without charge. British police do not usually identify suspects who have not been charged.

The Tup Tup Palace said West visited the club after his gig in Newcastle Thursday but could not confirm the arrest.

A spokeswoman for West did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

West was arrested last month at Los Angeles International Airport after he was filmed struggling with a paparazzo. He was not charged. West is playing dates around Britain as part of his Glow in the Dark tour.

In this Sept. 26, 2007 file photo, Rapper Kanye West arrives at the "Us Weekly Hot Hollywood 2007" party in Los Angeles.

AP

## Costner indulges passion for music with debut CD

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** (AP)—He's played Wyatt Earp, Robin Hood and Eliot Ness in the movies, but Kevin Costner says his most natural gig is playing music with his band.

"This is as close to my personality as I ever get, playing live," Costner said recently. "When I'm making a movie I'm playing whoever I'm playing. But my personality comes out on stage when I play live. That's when you see me the clearest."

Costner, 53, and his band Modern West released their debut CD "Untold Truths" on Tuesday.

The disc features 12 songs, half of them co-written by Costner, who's the lead singer and plays guitar. The sound is roots-rock with elements of country. The group is signed to Nashville-based Universal Records South.

"I grew up with Motown because I was born in Compton (Calif.), but every time I do a song it sounds like something in Oklahoma," he said.

Of course Costner is best known for his movies, but he's no newcomer to music. He was trained on piano and sang in the church choir as a kid. He's been writing and performing with a group for about 20 years.

At his wife's urging, he started pursuing it more seriously a few years ago. "She had this steady prodding. She prodded me every three or four months. She said 'You're really happy when you play music. You should do this.'

# NBC signs development deal with Hilary Duff

In this Oct. 15, 2008 file photo, actress Hilary Duff poses on the press line at the "Project Runway" Fifth Season Finale party in Los Angeles.

AP

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Hilary Duff will soon become a fixture on NBC.

The former Lizzie McGuire has signed a talent and development deal with the network. NBC said it will come up with a new series for Duff to star in, although it offered no details on what that might be.

In addition, the network said Friday that Duff will appear as a guest in several other NBC series over the next year, but there were no details.

Duff recently co-starred in the John Cusack movie "War, Inc." and has three feature films coming out next year.

The announcement was made by Ben Silverman, co-chairman, NBC Entertainment and Universal Media Studios.

# Ex-'Soul Train' host Cornelius charged in disputes

**LOSANGELES**(AP)—The Los Angeles city attorney has charged Don Cornelius, former host of "Soul Train," in connection with two domestic incidents involving his wife last month. Cornelius was charged with spousal battery, assault with a deadly weapon and dissuading a witness from making a police report, all misdemeanors, city attorney spokesman Frank Mateljan said Friday.

The married 72-year-old producer was taken to jail last month after police were called to his Hollywood Hills home following a report of domestic dispute.

Cornelius was released on $50,000 bail. He could face up to one year in prison for each of the five misdemeanor charges.

# Teen caught in a lie feels trapped by parents' distrust

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

**DEAR ABBY**: I have a huge problem. I am a 16-year-old girl, and last week I lied to my best friend's parents so we could go to a movie. Her parents found out and told my parents, who got very angry and have me grounded for a minimum of a month—depending on my "attitude."

I never used to lie as often as I do now. In the first week of being grounded, I lied again and got caught. Now they don't trust me at all, and I can't even leave my school campus to go to lunch or answer phone calls or anything!

How do I get my mom and dad to trust me again when I'm grounded? If I'm not given any freedom, then how can I prove I'm responsible? I am at the end of my rope here. Please help.

CAUGHT LYING IN COLORADO

**DEAR CAUGHT LYING: Trust is built on confidence, and it is going to take some time for you to rebuild it. Put yourself in your parents' shoes. Until you are an adult, they are responsible for your health, education and growth.**

**The first thing you need to do is admit to them that you have screwed up. Then start working to redeem yourself. Remember, actions speak louder than words. It isn't what you say, but what you DO that matters.**

**If you want to be treated like a mature adult, perform like one. Be responsible for your actions, and you will earn your parents' confidence. Look at it this way—whom do YOU trust? Those who have shown by their actions that they can be trusted, of course. I'm sure your parents are aching to trust you. So start today to show them that they can, and they will.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: My husband, "Dru," and I get along great. We are each other's best friend, and I believe we can make it for the long haul. However, a colleague overheard a conversation I was having with my husband and told me I sounded like his mother!

I am a deployed soldier, and Dru has been dragging his feet regarding some things we need to take care of. I sometimes feel like his mother on issues where I don't think he "gets it." I do tend to "mother" the people I love, and I would like my husband to step up more and show me more often that we're a team, not a parent and child.

It could also be that my mom and brothers reject my affection, and I like to shower it on Dru because that's how I show love. Should we set more boundaries so I don't feel like my husband's mom?

OVERLY MOTHERLY OVERSEAS

**DEAR OVERLY MOTHERLY: No marriage is identical to another. The amount of give-and-take between the spouses that makes it successful—or causes it to fail—is a delicate balance that is different in each one. Some men like being told what to do and when to do it—and so do some women. Other couples make their decisions jointly.**

**If you are uncomfortable in the role you have assumed, talk to your husband about your feelings. When you are back stateside, it may be time for some marriage counseling if you feel it's needed.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: When picking up another couple for a half-hour drive to a restaurant, should I continue to sit next to my husband (who is driving), or should I get in the back seat with the wife of the other couple, so we gals can chat and the guys can, too?

UNSURE IN MOUNTAIN HOME, ARK.

**DEAR UNSURE: It depends upon how friendly you are with the wife and how much you have to chat about. If the conversation will be so intense that you begin to resemble Linda Blair in "The Exorcist," sit in the back so you won't throw your neck out.**

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*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)*

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235- NEWS

# Yanks make offer to Sabathia

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Joe Girardi said this week he'd enjoy showing free agents around the new Yankee Stadium. CC Sabathia is one of the players the New York manager has in mind for a tour of the spacious clubhouse, players lounge, indoor batting cage and underground hot tub.

Free-agent season opened Friday with the Yankees planning to give Sabathia a record offer for a pitcher.

Yankees co-chairman Hank Steinbrenner confirmed Friday night at the team's spring training complex in Tampa, Fla., that an offer was made to Sabathia, and that proposals will be forthcoming for pitchers A.J. Burnett and Derek Lowe.

"Yes," Steinbrenner said when asked if an offer was made to Sabathia. "And we're prepared to make offers to Burnett and Lowe."

The Yankees formulated a proposal to the big lefty that would exceed Johan Santana's $137.5 million, six-year contract with the New York Mets both in total and average, a baseball official familiar with the negotiations said. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to divulge details.

Steinbrenner declined to give details about the Sabathia offer.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman and Greg Genske, one of Sabathia's agents, did not return telephone calls seeking comment.

Steinbrenner said he felt the Yankees will be successful in the free-agent market.

AP

In this Sept. 28, 2008 file photo, Milwaukee Brewers starting pitcher CC Sabathia throws during the fifth inning of a baseball game in Milwaukee. The Yankees formulated a proposal to the big lefty that would exceed Johan Santana's $137.5 million, six-year contract with the New York Mets both in total and average, a baseball official familiar with the negotiations said Friday, Nov. 14, 2008.

"I'm starting to become very optimistic," Steinbrenner said. "I think it's going to be mutually beneficial to us and for these particular players that we're after for them to join the Yankees."

Sabathia went a combined 17-10 for Cleveland and Milwaukee this year after winning the 2007 AL Cy Young Award, and is considered the best starting pitcher in this year's free-agent class.

On Friday morning, the Yankees gave a media tour of the new ballpark, scheduled to be substantially completed by Feb. 17. The oval clubhouse has wide lockers, with a replica of the stadium frieze above them, and the Yankees hope one will be Sabathia's.

Other top free-agent starters are likely will wait for Sabathia to set the price for pitchers.

"The signing of CC is going to create probably a truer market for a number of the pitchers, mainly because the clubs that are bidding on CC didn't get him, and the demand for the other pitchers will be greater," said agent Scott Boras, who represents free agents Oliver Perez and Lowe.

The 171 players who filed for free agency after the World Series could start negotiating money with all teams starting at 12:01 a.m. EST Friday. Boras, based in California, said his phone was ringing repeatedly late Thursday night.

"I got eight phone calls. They didn't wait till the business day. You're talking about owners, your talking about general managers, people taking very aggressive stances with particular players," said Boras, who also represents outfielder Manny Ramirez and first baseman Mark Teixeira, among the top free-agent sluggers.

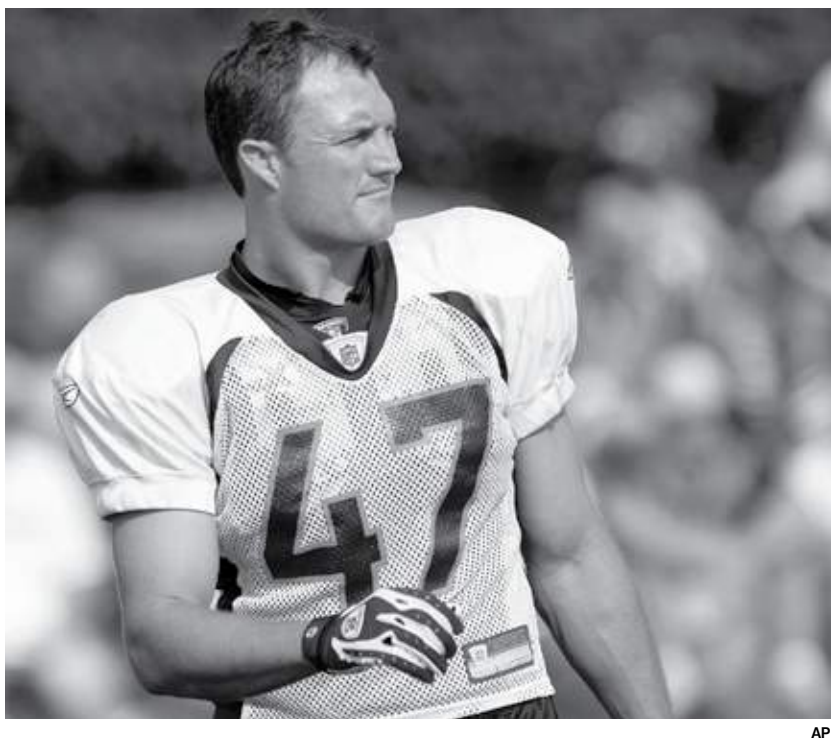
"They wanted to make sure they were on the board making offers," Boras said.

Francisco Rodriguez tops the available relief pitchers, a group that also includes Brian Fuentes and Kerry Wood. Agent Paul Kinzer said he had received inquiries from four teams about K-Rod, who saved a record 62 games for the Los Angeles Angels.

"I just think we've got to be patient. We'll know when the fit's right," Kinzer said. "When we get closer, we'll probably meet with the people, maybe check out the area, living arrangements, that type thing, and then make a decision."

He also reported an aggressive market for another client, shortstop Rafael Furcal.

# 9-time Pro Bowl Lynch to retire



AP

In this July 26, 2008, file photo, Denver Broncos safety John Lynch looks on during the morning session of NFL football training camp in Denver. Lynch has decided to retire, officially ending his career with a news conference Monday in Tampa, Fla.

**ENGLEWOOD, Colo.** (AP)—Big-hitting safety John Lynch's crunching collisions are over.

Lynch has decided to retire, officially ending his career with a news conference Monday in Tampa, Fla.

The 37-year-old was a nine-time Pro Bowler for Denver and Tampa Bay, finishing with 1,277 tackles, 100 pass breakups and 26 interceptions in 224 regular-season games.

He departed Denver on good terms in July after being bumped from his starting role and signed with the Patriots. He was cut two weeks later and has been out of the game since.

"Just everything you'd want in a player," Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said Friday after hearing about Lynch's retirement. "He set an example on how to be a pro."

Lynch made it known that there was a price to pay for coming over the middle—a painful pounding.

"He made a name for himself with (big hits)," said safety Marlon McCree, whose emergence in Denver eventually led to Lynch bolting the Broncos. "That's the type of player he was."

Lynch played 11 years in Tampa Bay, winning a Super Bowl with the Buccaneers during the 2002 season. But he struggled with neck injuries in his final season there and eventually needed surgery to remove bone spurs.

The Bucs said goodbye, partly thinking his career was complete.

Lynch landed in Denver before the '04 season. He made four more Pro Bowl squads and guided the Broncos into the AFC championship game, losing to the eventual Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh Steelers.

"John was one of the most intense players I have ever played with," cornerback Champ Bailey said. "It was an honor and a pleasure to play four years with John Lynch. I learned a lot from him."

Lynch set the tone for the defense with his jarring hits.

"There was nothing better than for John to get that first big hit early," Broncos defensive end Ebenezer Ekuban said. "The whole defense rallied around that. It got everybody hyped up, everybody ready to go."

Lynch's decline in playing time began last season as he started to come off the field on passing downs. Still, he played every snap over the last three games, and Broncos owner Pat Bowlen talked him into signing a cut-rate deal in the offseason.

As practices wore on, Lynch became disappointed with the amount of time he was receiving. He asked the team to let him explore other options.

The Broncos did just that, understanding his choice.

## NFL BRIEFS

### Portis misses practice, again

**ASHBURN, Va.** (AP)—Washington Redskins running back Clinton Portis did not practice again Friday and will be used only "in a limited fashion" if he is able to play Sunday night against the Dallas Cowboys. The NFL's second-leading rusher was able to watch practice—unlike Wednesday and Thursday, when his sprained left knee kept him away from the field — and was "getting some mental reps in case he has a chance to go," according to coach Jim Zorn. Portis sprained the knee in the 23-6 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers before last week's bye. He is questionable on the injury report.

### Bears' Orton probable for Green Bay game

**LAKE FOREST, Ill.** (AP)—Quarterback Kyle Orton was listed as probable for the Chicago Bears' game at Green Bay on Sunday. Orton sat out a 21-14 loss to Tennessee last week with a sprained right ankle. He was taken from the field on a cart late in the first half of a win over Detroit on Nov. 2. Orton is enjoying a breakout season with 1,777 yards and 10 touchdowns after beating former starter Rex Grossman in a preseason competition. If Orton can't go against the Packers, Grossman will likely make his second straight start.

### Hasselbeck, Branch ready to start for Seattle

**RENTON, Wash.** (AP)—Finally, Matt Hasselbeck and Deion Branch are facing a challenge the Seahawks are thrilled to be dealing with: rust. Seattle's three-time Pro Bowl passer and former Super Bowl MVP receiver worked with the first-team offense for the entire practice Friday. So each is ready to start for the first time in six weeks Sunday against first-place Arizona. They're back for what coach Mike Holmgren says is a must-win game to save Seattle's season. The four-time defending division champions are 2-7 and trail the Cardinals by four games in the NFC West with seven games remaining.

### Steven Jackson out for 49ers game

**ST. LOUIS** (AP)—Rams running back Steven Jackson will not play Sunday against the 49ers because of his injured right thigh, and coach Jim Haslett said he won't even make the trip. Jackson did not practice Friday. By sitting out at San Francisco, he will have missed three of the last four games. Antonio Pittman and Travis Minor will be the running backs. Pittman, who has been playing through a hamstring injury, has 40 yards on 23 carries in the past two games.

# Lakers undefeated no more

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Rasheed Wallace had 25 points and 13 rebounds, Allen Iverson added 25 points and the Detroit Pistons handed the Los Angeles Lakers their first loss of the season, 106-95 Friday night.

Kobe Bryant scored 29 points for the Lakers, but went 12-of-30 from the floor.

The Lakers, who won their first seven and were outscoring opponents by an average of 18 points, had been the only team in the NBA without a defeat.

The Pistons have dominated the Lakers recently, going 8-2. Their defense on Bryant has been a key, with Detroit holding him to 20 or fewer points in five of the last nine meetings. He had 17 through the first three quarters in the latest loss, when the Pistons built a big lead.

The Pistons beat the Lakers in Los Angeles despite playing back to back games—Detroit won at Golden State the previous night.

Both Bryant and Iverson moved up on the NBA's all-time scoring list. Bryant has 21,817 points and jumped into 21st ahead of Larry Bird (21,791) and Gary Payton (21,813). Iverson (23,156) passed Elgin Baylor (23,149) to jump to No. 19.

Iverson was playing his fifth game since being traded from Denver to Detroit, and the Pistons are 3-2 since his arrival.

Tayshaun Prince added 18 points in Detroit's balanced scoring. Former Laker Kwame Brown had a double-double, with 10 rebounds and 10 points, and Richard Hamilton also scored 10.

Pau Gasol had 10 points and was the only Lakers' starter other than Bryant in double figures. Lamar Odom had 11 points and Trevor Ariza 10.

The Pistons moved in front to stay late in the first quarter, and held a double-digit lead for most of the second half.

Detroit stretched the lead to 77-62 on Arron Afflalo's 3-pointer in the closing seconds of the third period. The Lakers pulled to 61-56 earlier in the quarter, but Prince made a reverse dunk and sank two free throws to help the Pistons stay in control.

Iverson had 14 points by halftime, Bryant had 13 and the Pistons were ahead 53-44 at the break.

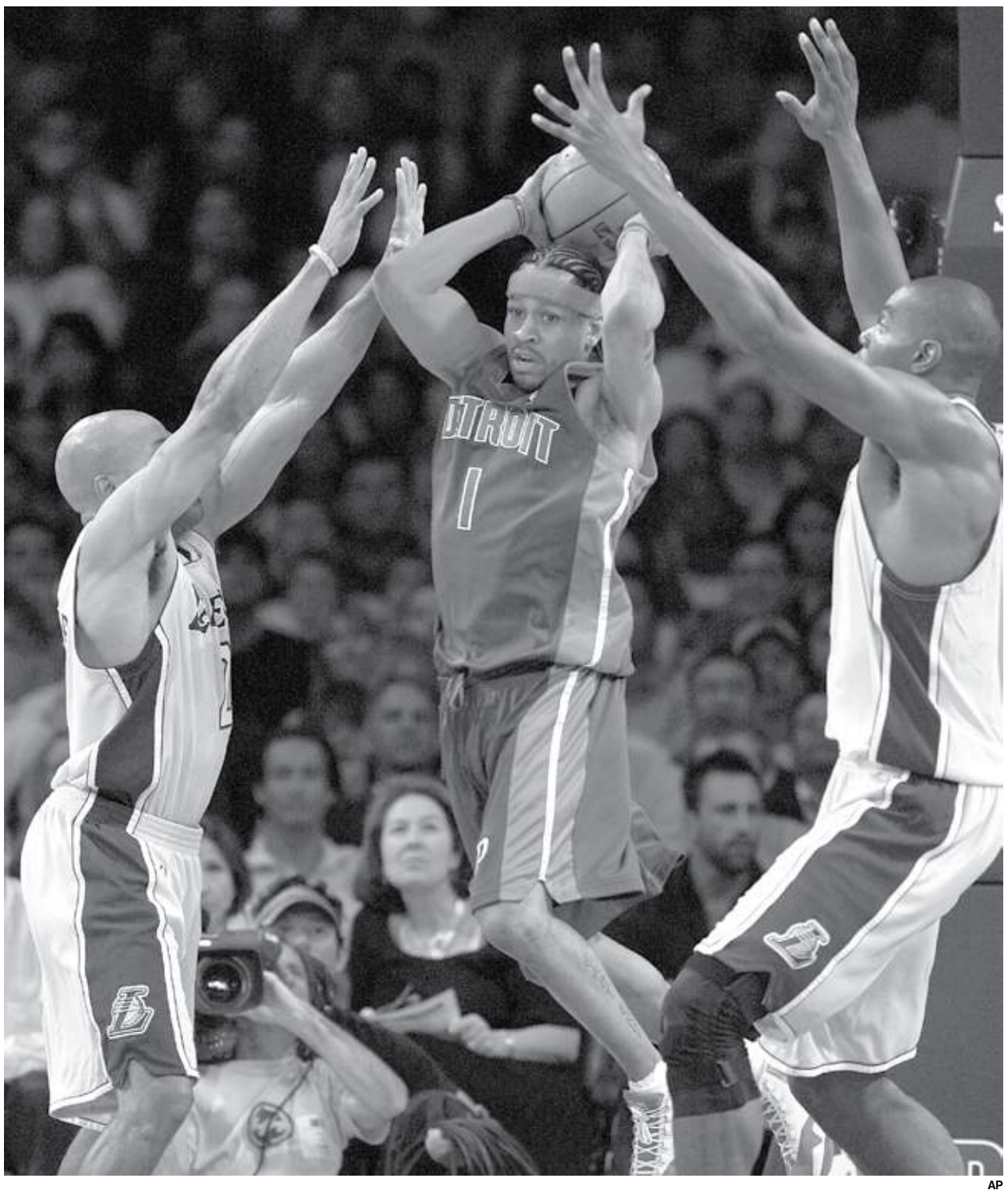
Wallace had 13 for Detroit, including going 3-of-6 from beyond the arc. The Pistons went 23-of-41 from the floor in the first two quarters, while Los Angeles was just 19-of-46.

Prince added 11 first-half points for Detroit, and Gasol had 10 for the Lakers.

The Pistons held a 39-27 advantage 4 1/2 minutes into the second quarter and Los Angeles got no closer than nine the rest of the period.

After Bryant scored on a high-above-the-rim lob from Gasol to give the Lakers their first lead at 14-12, Iverson closed out the first quarter with a steal off Bryant and a race downcourt to beat the buzzer. His running lob dropped through the hoop as time expired, putting Detroit up 23-16.

Iverson had 10 points in the opening quarter and Bryant led the Lakers with seven. The Pistons shot 58 percent from the floor and the Lakers shot just 32 percent.



AP

Detroit Pistons guard Allen Iverson (1) looks to pass while being double-teamed by Los Angeles Lakers guard Derek Fisher, left, and Los Angeles Lakers center Andrew Bynum, right, in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Friday, Nov. 14, 2008, in Los Angeles.

### Sixers 94, Pacers 92

In Indianapolis, Thaddeus Young had 25 points and 10 rebounds and the Philadelphia 76ers overcame a 26-point deficit to beat Indiana 94-92 on Friday night.

Andre Miller added 19 points, Elton Brand had 14 points and 15 rebounds, and Andre Iguodala finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds for the 76ers. With the victory, Philadelphia snapped a three-game losing streak against the Pacers.

Danny Granger had 18 points, Marquis Daniels finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds, and T.J. Ford added 12 points and seven assists for Indiana.

The 76ers tied it at 90 on Iguodala's free throw with 3:14 left in the fourth quarter and took their first lead, 92-90, on Miller's layup.

### Nuggets 94, Celtics 85

In Boston, Carmelo Anthony and Chauncey Billups had 18 points each and Kenyon Martin added 16 for Denver, 4-1 since acquiring Billups from Detroit.

The loss snapped a six-game winning streak for the Celtics (8-2). Ray Allen led all scorers with 26 points. Paul Pierce had 19 points and Kevin Garnett added 16 for the Celtics in their first home loss of the season.

### Knicks 116, Thunder 106

In New York, Jamal Crawford and Zach Randolph each scored 29 points, combining for 10 in the final 4 minutes after New York had blown most of a 30-point lead.

Nate Robinson made his first five shots, giving him 13 in a row over two games, and Randolph had 19 rebounds in his seventh straight double-double. But seemingly headed to their second straight lopsided victory, the Knicks' huge cushion was down to seven at 102-95 before Crawford and Randolph bailed them out.

The Knicks (6-3) are off to their best start since also going 6-3 to open the lockout-delayed 1998-99 season. Kevin Durant returned from a one-game absence with an ankle injury to score 23 points for Oklahoma City. The Thunder have lost six straight to fall to 1-8.

### Bobcats 104, Jazz 96

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Raymond Felton scored 23 points, and Gerald Wallace added 22 for Charlotte in a matchup of undermanned teams.

While the Bobcats played without top scorer Jason Richardson (knee), the Jazz were without point guard Deron Williams (ankle), sixth-man Andrei Kirilenko (finger) and center Mehmet Okur, who is with his sick father in Turkey.

Carlos Boozer had 26 points and 15 rebounds for the Jazz, who committed 20 turnovers in their third loss in four games following a 5-0 start.

### Heat 97, Wizards 77

In Miami, Dwyane Wade scored 24 points before taking the fourth quarter off, and Miami held Washington without a field goal for 9 minutes in the second half.

Michael Beasley scored 19 points for Miami (5-4), which needed 20 games to hit the five-win mark last season. Udonis Haslem had 13 points and 13 rebounds.

Antawn Jamison finished with 15 points and 10 rebounds for Washington, which fell to 0-4 on the road and an Eastern Conference-worst 1-6 overall.

### Spurs 77, Rockets 75

In San Antonio, Tim Duncan scored 22 points and blocked Aaron Brooks' layup with a second left for San Antonio.

Rookie George Hill, playing in place of Tony Parker at point guard for the Spurs, added 17 points to help San Antonio—down 14 points with 7:37 to go— improve to 3-5.

Ron Artest led Houston with 18 points.

### Nets 115, Hawks 108

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Devin Harris, back in the lineup after missing three games because of a sprained left ankle, scored 30 points for New Jersey.

The Nets also got career-best nights from rookies Brook Lopez (25 points), and Ryan Anderson (15). Vince Carter had 26 points to help the Nets end a three-game losing streak. The Hawks, who opened the season with six straight wins, have lost two in a row. Joe Johnson scored 30 of his game-high 32 in the second half.

### Magic 102, Mavericks 100

In Dallas, Rashard Lewis scored 23 points, including the tying and go-ahead points on free throws with 10.9 seconds left, for Orlando.

Dirk Nowitzki led Dallas with 24 points. The Mavericks (2-7) lost their fifth straight and remain winless at home (0-4) under new coach Rick Carlisle.

### Hornets 87, Trail Blazers 82

In New Orleans, David West scored 18 points and James Posey hit two 3-pointers in the final minute for New Orleans' only field goals in the last 8:30.

Chris Paul added 17 points, nine assists and four steals for the Hornets. Injury-plagued Portland center Greg Oden, the No. 1 pick in the 2007 draft, scored a career-best 11 points in his second game back from a sprained foot.

### Bucks 101, Grizzlies 96, OT

In Memphis, Tennessee, Ramon Sessions had 20 points, including a pair of free throws that put Milwaukee ahead with 42.6 seconds left in overtime.

Richard Jefferson led Milwaukee with 26 points and 10 rebounds, while Luc Richard Mbah a Moute had 19 points and 17 rebounds. O.J. Mayo led Memphis with 25 points.

## Nash, Barnes, Alston suspended

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The NBA on Friday suspended Steve Nash and Matt Barnes of the Phoenix Suns and Rafer Alston of the Houston Rockets for their roles in a fight.

Alston and Barnes were suspended for two games without pay and Nash for one. The league also fined Suns center Shaquille O'Neal $35,000 and Rockets forward Tracy McGrady $25,000 for their actions during the Rockets' 94-82 win in Phoenix on Wednesday.

Nash was cited for "escalating the altercation." He and Barnes will miss Friday's game at Sacramento, and Barnes also will sit Sunday against Detroit.

Alston will miss games Friday against San Antonio and Saturday against New Orleans.

Barnes and Alston were ejected from the game after a melee with 27 seconds left in the third quarter.

Barnes shoved Alston, who was attempting to set a pick. After McGrady hit a basket, Alston went at Barnes, sparking a pushing and shoving match.

Nash went after Alston and McGrady pushed the Suns' All-Star guard to the floor. O'Neal then reached in and shoved the pile to the floor.

When order was restored, Barnes and Alston were ejected and Nash, O'Neal and McGrady had been hit with technical fouls.

# San Miguel tastes first victory

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

San Miguel Light/Pacific Trading, Co. finally broke into the win column in the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League.

The Beermen savored their first victory Thursday night after walloping Olivos/Reliance Construction, 107-83, at the CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan.

San Miguel and Olivos played in the final game of the regular season with the former ending the preliminary round with a 1-5 record. Olivos had a 2-4 record in the regular season.

Ryan Sanciangco, who played only in his third game in the league, led the Beermen's offense with his 23 points.

His presence was badly needed in the game, as San Miguel played without its other gunner—Leo Itaas.

Sanciangco's 10-second quarter points allowed San Miguel Light to take full control of the game, leading by eight points, 44-36, at halftime.

Sanciangco had only six points in the first period, which ended with San Miguel ahead by only two, 18-16.

The lead increased to 12 after the third period, 75-63, as Sancianggo began to draw support from his teammates.

Erian Lansang and Joem Abenoja had seven points apiece, while Alex Lauron chipped in six for San Miguel in the third period. Four Beermen combined for 15 points.

While San Miguel had a balance offense in the third quarter, Ivan De Vero almost had a one-man show for Olivos, firing 12 markers. He was the lone Olivos player to score more than two field goals in the third canto.

Olivos never recovered from thereon, as De Vero went cold in the fourth, making only four markers. Dante Olivos drilled the most points for Olivos in the fourth with eight, but majority of his baskets came when the game was already decided.

San Miguel continued its balance attack in the fourth period with seven players making it to the scoreboard.

Lansang was still on target in the fourth quarter, adding eight markers, while four players had four points each.

Despite the win, San Miguel finished at the bottom of the team standings in the seven-team field.

The Beermen will be paired against MIGS in the first round of the single-elimination playoffs this week.

MIGS finished the regular season in second place with a 5-1 record. Century tied MIGS in the win-loss mark, but the former took the No. 1 spot and the pennant after winning in their lone meeting in the regular season. Century also drew a bye in the first round of the playoffs.

Olivos was ranked fourth and will be pitted against C&R Distributor/NRG. The other playoff pairing will be Diamond Auto Care and Aon Insurance.

**San Miguel 107**—Sanciangco 23, Lansang 17, Lauron 16, Abenoja 17, Garon 10, Reyes 8, Obnimaga 8, Sarmiento 4.

**Olivos/Reliance 83**—De Vero 26, Casabuena 15, Olivos 14, Dimaano 14, Mateo 7, Mercurio 6, Mendiola 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-16, 44-36, 75-63, 107-83

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Leo Itaas right, of San Miguel Light, is seen here driving against Larry Palero, center, of Century Insurance during their game in the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League at the CIC Centre Basketball Court. Itaas did not play in San Miguel's last game Thursday night, but the Beermen still won over Olivos, 107-93, for their first victory in the league.

# Fil-Taga holds November Ace tourney today

The winner of the Fil-Taga Golfers Association November Ace of the Month Tournament will win $100, according to officer Nestor Siruelo.

Set today at the Marianas Golf and Country Club in Marpi, the tournament will also award a turkey each to second, third, and fourth-place winners. Siruelo added that a turkey will be given away to the nearest to the pin/hole in each par-3 hole.

Today's tourney will have a showtime of 11am with tee-off time scheduled 30 minutes later at 11:30am.

Established in 1993, Fil-Taga's tournaments operate under a computer-controlled handicap system that creates parity among players in the A and B Flights.

A Fil-Taga Ace of the Month champion is crowned monthly. Regular tournaments are scheduled once a month, normally every third Sunday. Green fees are in the $35 to $40 price range for most tournaments.

Its 2008-2009 set of officers are led by president Mike Cruz, vice president Jhun Calma, secretary Manny Po, treasurer Arnaldo Guban, and board of directors Fr. Manny Corcuera , Jhun Dela Cruz, Ted Malaran, Gil Faller, Rey Ferraz, Greg De Torres, Rene Batalliones, Nestor Siruelo, and George Sablan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

# Sta. Lucia survives Rain or Shine rally for fifth win

**ANTIPOLO, Philippines**—Given the opportunity, the Sta. Lucia reserves are capable of winning game for the team.

They did against the Rain or Shine Elasto Painters at the Ynares Sports Center here Friday.

Rookie Kelvin Gregorio and sophomore Christian Coronel were among Sta. Lucia's unlikely heroes as the Realtors overcame the Elasto Painters, 88-85, to finish third behind Alaska Milk Aces and the San Miguel Beermen after the initial round of the KFC PBA Philippine Cup double-round elimination phase.

Nelbert Omolon scored only four points but made all these down the stretch helping the team pick up the slack on the early exit of Kelly Williams and Paolo Mendoza.

Williams headed to the dugout late in the third with his right eye accidentally poked by JayR Reyes. Mendoza followed in a little while after a technical infraction.

The Realtors won't be denied, though, with their reserves rising to the occasion.

Coronel scored on a buzzer-beating shot then Omolon and Norman Gonzales knocked it two charities each as the Realtors shattered an 83-all deadlock and went on to notch a fifth win against four losses.

Rain or Shine suffered a second straight loss and slid to joint fourth place with Purefoods at 5-5.

**Sta. Lucia 88**—Mendoza 16, Gregorio 13, Espino 13, Miranda 10, Yeo 8, Aquino 8, Gonzales 8, Coronel 7, Williams 3, Omolon 2, Jaime 0.

**Rain or Shine 83**—Isip 23, Mercado 14, Wainwright 13, Reyes 8, Norwood 7, Dulay 6, Laure 4, Salangsang 3, Tang 2, Andaya 2, Ibanes 1, Arana 0.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-19, 41-37, 67-59, 88-85 ***(pba.com.ph)***

## FOOTBALL

*From Page 28*

Independent FC, Matansa FC, MP United FC, and Paire FC.

U16 divisions had five games featuring United's White and Blue teams, Matansa, IFC Orange, and Paire Red.

Competing in the U8 were IFC Orange, Paire Red, United Blue, Paire Black, United White, and Matansa.

The U10 division had the most teams with seven. The list include the United Blue and White, Paire Black and Red, Matansa, and IFC Orange and Green.

The four clubs had only one team apiece playing in the U12 division, while only Matansa, Paire and United were represented in the U15 division.

NMIFA president Jerry Tan was in Hopwood to watch some of the games and was ecstatic with the big turnout in the festival.

"There were more players this time than the first festival held early this year. Thanks to the organizing committee and the parents who allowed their kids to join the sport of football," Tan said.

Greg Borja was the chairman of organizing committee of the the football festival

Tan added it was very encouraging to see a lot of kids showing up for the festivities two months after NMIFA was granted membership to the East Asian Football Festival.

"We applied for membership in EAFF to help us promote football among our youth and here we are, getting more kids involved in the No. 1 sport in the world," Tan said.

Aside from Tan, Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White and Public Health Director Richard Brostrom attended the festival and watched some of the games.

White in a brief message to players encouraged them to continue joining football, or any sport, while Brostrom mentioned the benefits from actively participating in sports.

Meanwhile, NMIFA during a brief recognition ceremony awarded plaques of appreciation to former officers who contributed to the success of football in the CNMI.

The list include Vince Stravino, Brenda Schultz, Sue Knecht, and Peter Coleman.

NMIFA also cited the CNMI U14 Team which played in an international tournament last year.

The team was composed of Mickey Coleman, Devin Atalig, Hunter Thorpe, Caleb Arriola, Jaythan Camacho, Crosby Schultz, Bo Barry, Stacy Escueta, jake Lee, Josiah Orlando, Angelo Jones, Andrew Johnson, Misaki Cramer, Hirai Misami, Hunter Jewell, Jehn Joyner, Keoni Borja, and Clay McCullough-Stearns.

Nick Swaim coach the team and was assisted by Brenda Schultz, while Peter Coleman and John Ravell were the team and equipment managers, respectively.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Atlantic Division** | | | | |
| Boston | 8 | 2 | .800 | _ |
| New York | 6 | 3 | .667 | 1 1/2 |
| Toronto | 4 | 4 | .500 | 3 |
| Philadelphia | 4 | 5 | .444 | 3 1/2 |
| New Jersey | 3 | 5 | .375 | 4 |
| **Southeast Division** | | | | |
| Atlanta | 6 | 2 | .750 | _ |
| Orlando | 6 | 3 | .667 | 1/2 |
| Miami | 5 | 4 | .556 | 1 1/2 |
| Charlotte | 3 | 5 | .375 | 3 |
| Washington | 1 | 6 | .143 | 4 1/2 |
| **Central Division** | | | | |
| Cleveland | 7 | 2 | .778 | _ |
| Detroit | 7 | 2 | .778 | _ |
| Milwaukee | 5 | 5 | .500 | 2 1/2 |
| Indiana | 4 | 4 | .500 | 2 1/2 |
| Chicago | 4 | 5 | .444 | 3 |

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Southwest Division** | | | | |
| New Orleans | 5 | 3 | .625 | _ |
| Houston | 5 | 4 | .556 | 1/2 |
| San Antonio | 3 | 5 | .375 | 2 |
| Memphis | 3 | 7 | .300 | 3 |
| Dallas | 2 | 7 | .222 | 3 1/2 |
| **Northwest Division** | | | | |
| Utah | 6 | 3 | .667 | _ |
| Denver | 5 | 4 | .556 | 1 |
| Portland | 5 | 4 | .556 | 1 |
| Minnesota | 1 | 6 | .143 | 4 |
| Oklahoma City | 1 | 8 | .111 | 5 |
| **Pacific Division** | | | | |
| L.A. Lakers | 7 | 1 | .875 | _ |
| Phoenix | 7 | 3 | .700 | 1 |
| Sacramento | 4 | 6 | .400 | 4 |
| Golden State | 3 | 6 | .333 | 4 1/2 |
| L.A. Clippers | 1 | 7 | .125 | 6 |

**Yesterday's Games**

Charlotte 104, Utah 96
Philadelphia 94, Indiana 92
Miami 97, Washington 77
New Jersey 115, Atlanta 108
New York 116,
Oklahoma City 106
Denver 94, Boston 85
New Orleans 87, Portland 82
Milwaukee 101,
Memphis 96, OT
San Antonio 77, Houston 75
Orlando 102, Dallas 100
Phoenix 97, Sacramento 95, OT
Detroit 106, L.A. Lakers 95

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Lakers undefeated no more**

Rasheed Wallace had 25 points and 13 rebounds, Allen Iverson added 25 points and the Detroit Pistons handed the Los Angeles Lakers their first loss of the season, 106-95 Friday night. **26**

Saipan Tribune
Sports

**Yanks make offer to Sabathia**

Joe Girardi said this week he'd enjoy showing free agents around the new Yankee Stadium. CC Sabathia is one of the players the New York manager has in mind for a tour. **25**

# Football festival a hit

MP United and Paire Red strikers battle for the ball during the U6 division game in the 2008 NMIFA Youth Festival of Football at Hopwood Junior High School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hopwood Junior High School Field was turned into a big playground yesterday as more than 200 CNMI young strikers played in the 2008 NMIFA Youth Festival of Football.

The second football festival of the year in Northern Mariana Islands Football Association's calendar for 2008 features games played simultaneously in four fields.

Participants in the U6 and U8 divisions played at the smaller fields, while strikers in the U12, U10, and U15 divisions put on a show at the two center fields.

Participants came from the four clubs on Saipan, namely the

*See FOOTBALL on Page 27*

# PTI zooms to Saturday Night win

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

PTI won the Philippine Bowling Association-Budweiser Saturday Night League after edging Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan with the slimmest of margin in the competition that ended early November.

The team, composed of Ramir De Leon, Mindy Taitano, Ronald Fuellas, Ronald Epan, Bernard Paraiso, Richie Dumlao, and Roger Vales, received their handsome trophy exactly a week ago at the Saipan Bowling Center in Oleai.

PTI finished with a 55.5-28.5 record to win the 29th season of the tenpin bowling league.

Fiesta Resort & Spa came in second, half a point behind PTI with its 51-29 win-loss record, followed by Gigi's Angels and Scrambled Eggs with identical cards of 44-36. Completing the Top 5 was Teax X with its 43-37 record.

In the individual awards, SBC/J's Restaurant ace Robert Talavera (202.0) and Gigi's Angels' Ron Cal (175.2) won the high average award.

Vales and Gigi's Angels' Yho Villavicencio, meanwhile, showed the most improvement from last season, raising their averages by 21.53 and 12.35 pins, respectively, to win the most improved bowler plums.

In special awards, Scrambled Eggs' Rusty Musca and Destroyer's Nick Gutierrez shared the high game scratch with their identical score of 267, while Cal won the ladies division with her 235.

Gutierrez won anew in the high game with handicap (289), followed by SBC/J's Restaurant's Dong Eparwa (286). Cal again topped the ladies with her 258.

High series scratch belonged to Talavera with his 697 with second place going to Musca and his 673. Cal's 618 won the women's.

Jorge Soledad of champion PTI topped the high series with handicap with his 732 with Musca coming in second with his 727. Malou Cabigao prevented a Cal sweep by topping the category for women with her 693.

In the team awards, SBC/J's Restaurant won three of four categories—high game scratch (1,081), high series scratch (3,093), and high series with handicap (3,324). Philippine Consulate General topped the high game with handicap (1,162) to prevent a SBC/J's Restaurant's sweep.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PTI players pose with their Philippine Bowling Association-Budweiser Saturday Night League 29th Season championship trophy last Nov. 8 at the Saipan Bowling Center in Oleai.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SBC/J's Restaurant's Robert Talavera and Gigi's Angels' Ron Cal topped the high average awards.

## OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
*Special to the* Saipan Tribune

*Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2*

## Second thoughts

First, I would like to thank all loyal readers for not ridiculing me for my preseason NFL picks for the Super Bowl. For the record, I picked Dallas, Jacksonville, and Tennessee.

The Jags? Okay, what in the wide wide world of sports is going on here? I could simply say, "it was a typo, folks." Or "the NFL is unpredictable." Actually of the two, only the second is true.

Who picked the NY Giants to go all the way last season? Only those in the insane asylum. Even Giants fans weren't sure then that Eli Manning had the Right Stuff.

It's the same thing every year. No one can predict injuries and the Jags have been decimated by injuries. My rationale was that a defensive juggernaut from the AFC would sneak into the Big Dance. I had the right idea and I got the South Division, but the Titans are the team to watch out for. Jacksonville would have a chance only if they were playing in the Sisters of Eternal Mercy Hospital League. And then they might have trouble covering the spread.

The TT's are allowing the fewest points in the NFL in 2008, a measly 13 points per game. While offensive players get the glory, it's Albert Haynesworth, Keith Bullock and Chris Hope who are winning games.

Kerry Collins is now mentioned as an MVP candidate. That's nice except the Titans are a run-first team and it's their defense carrying them. Taking over for Vince Young (does a mental problem count as an injury?) after the season started is, to be sure, laudable but hardly the elevation needed to get him in the same discussion as Kurt Warner.

Collins is the 21st rated quarterback, right behind the immortal Joe Flacco. KC has thrown only five touchdown passes, same as Dan Orlovsky. Brett Favre threw for more TD passes in one game than Collins has all season. Collins is a nice story; he just doesn't belong in the MVP story.

The Steelers and Ravens are the other defensive teams that could go all the way. Notice I wrote "could", not "would". I am getting out of the prediction business.

Each year the Las Vegas Hilton sponsors a season-long NFL prediction contest. A few years ago, it was won by a woman who never watched the games. She said she picked the teams based on their uniforms. Presumably she picked against the Bengals.

Okay, I like the Cowboys uniforms. What happened to them? After Week 3, they were the best team …. maybe. Not all the blame can be laid on Tony Romo's pinkie. Well, some of it can. What kind of team with serious title hopes doesn't have a decent backup QB? Dallas had Brad Johnson who should be drawing retirement checks these days.

For the record, Romo was 4-2 before going down, and 1-2 in his last three games. And he doesn't play defense. Theoretically, the Boys could re-ignite and make a run. All a team has to do is get hot in December and January (see Steelers and Giants) to make the wild card and win four in a row.

I wouldn't bet on it. But then, I wouldn't bet on the NFL as I don't have a lot of money to throw away.